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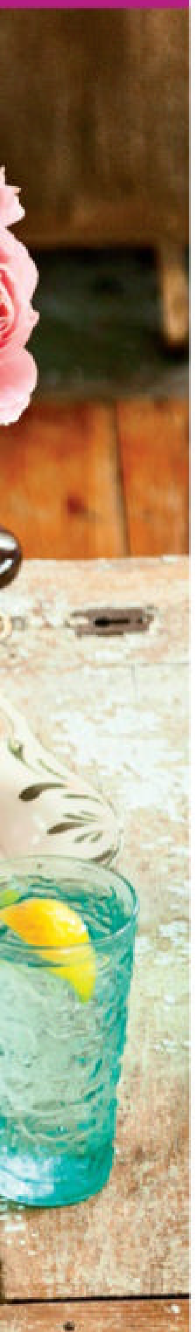
fabulous flea

Sheer excitement aside, what editor wouldn't be a bundle of mixed emotions when curating a "best of" issue? I'm biased, of course. But I truly believe there isn't one story from our content-packed past that doesn't deserve to be re-shared!

So while the decision was tougher than choosing just one vintage tablecloth from a whole bin of bargain-priced beauties, I am proud of the pieces we selected.

As you page through some of the most popular stories from our archives, you'll discover an inspiring yet approachable mix of get-up-and-try-this-now ideas. Dig into our tips for displaying collections and perfecting vignettes, plenty of quick (and some more involved) upcycling DIYs made from vintage finds, and some fun history on glassware, table settings, and great markets you need to know about. And of course, we return to the most inspiring homes in our library. We hope you agree it's our best issue yet!

Lisa Marie Hart
Editor-in-Chief



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VINTAGE LOVE

When a home is filled with old stuff, the heart beats with delight.

anatomy of a modern market

Remember when weddings used to be simple? Same goes for flea markets. It's not a bad thing, but these events have seriously upped their game. More personal, interactive, and styled than ever, junking markets of the moment are full-blown celebrations of a lifelong commitment to vintage love.

Market Beautiful's event takes over Big Mountain Ranch.

IF YOU'VE DUCKED OUT OF THE FLEA MARKET SCENE, HERE'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING...

LOCAL COLOR
Scenic or unusual locations, from bucolic farms to urban playgrounds

PUPS OK
Pet-friendly markets, some with dog-cart rentals

TIME TO GO
Tiered admission charge for different days and times. VIP, pre-entry preview parties and night before offer early shopping perks, as do early bird admission tickets (sometimes before 5 a.m.!)

ANNIE'S
shaved ice
FLAVORS
EXTRAS

NOM NOM
Food and dessert trucks, specialty cuisine (from sushi to gluten-free) and chef demos. Pricey water

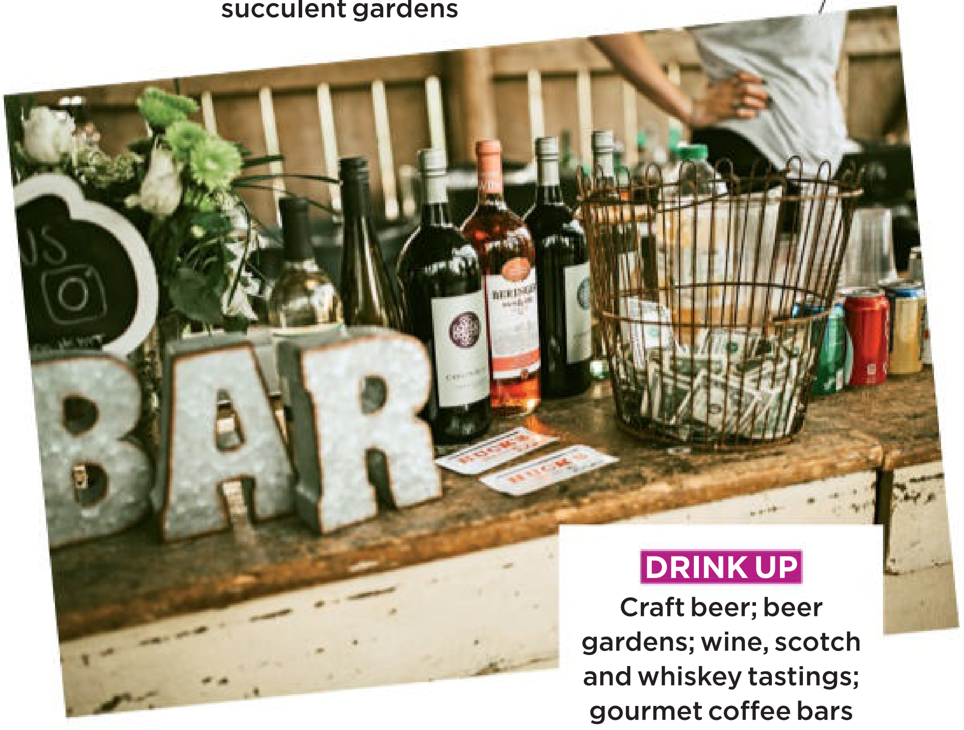
FARM FRESH
Farmers markets with artisan baked goods, honey, soap, candles, plants and fresh flowers

LISTEN UP
Guests speakers (even with folks from HGTV!) and meet-and-greets

Thrifty
GREEN
We love Cash
we also accept
Credit Cards
and
Debit Cards
OPEN

WAYS TO PAY
ATMs—albeit with steep fees for withdrawals; an increasing number of vendors who can process credit card payments through a phone app

PLAYTIME
Family activities such as lawn games, kids' craft tables, face painting, climbing walls, bounce houses, balloon art, petting zoos, pony rides and bonfires. Day-to-night live music and dancing



DRINK UP
Craft beer; beer gardens; wine, scotch and whiskey tastings; gourmet coffee bars

LET'S CONNECT
Vintage fashion shows and photo booths to show off your new (old) stuff. On-site workshops, from hand lettering to potting succulent gardens

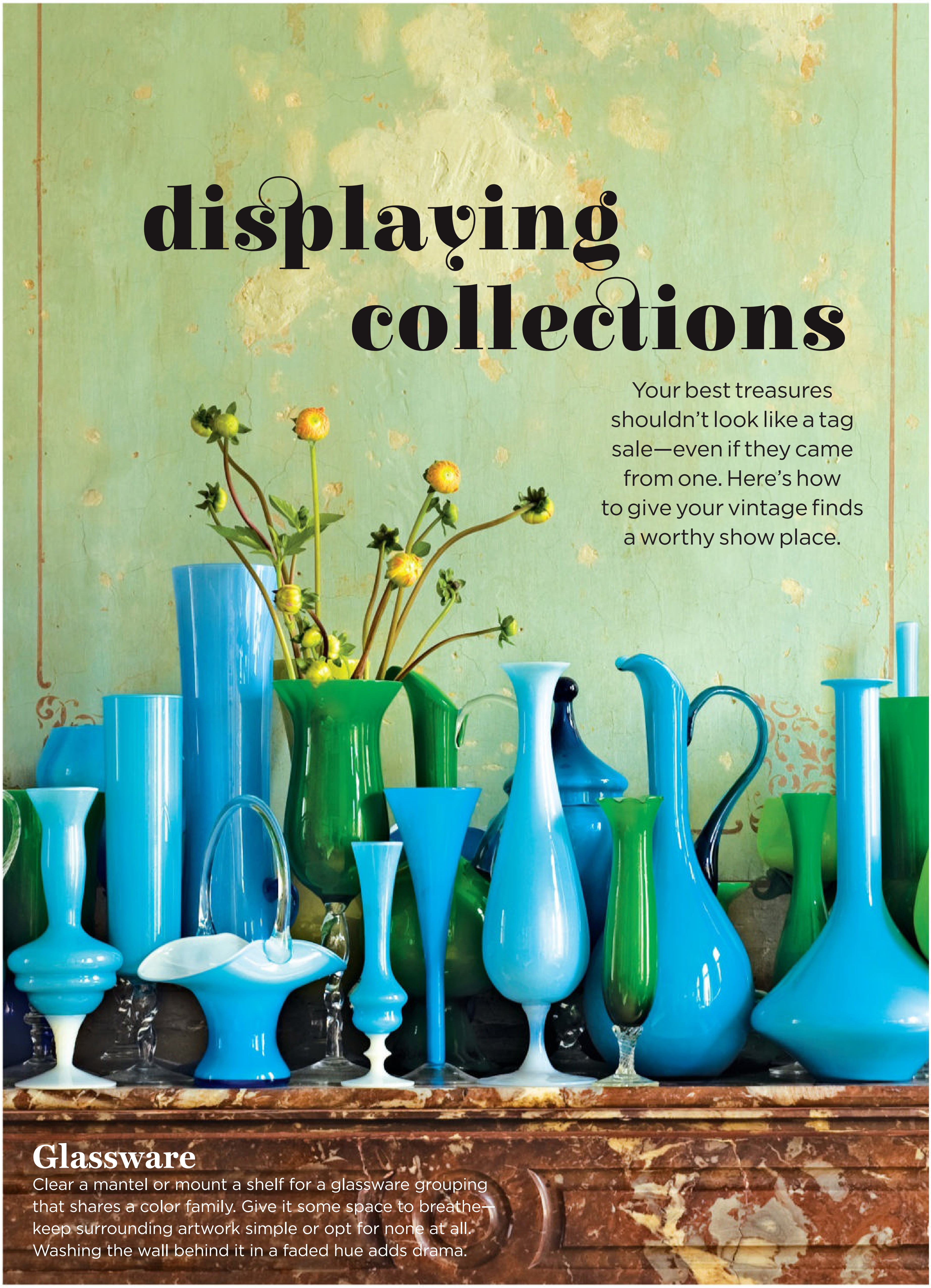
TRANSPORTIVE
Rentals for electric scooters to get around on, and rolling hand carts to get your load to the car—plus door-to-door delivery service

---

See map (page 112) for a coast-to-coast guide of other vintage markets besides Market Beautiful in Montana, shown here.

displaying collections

Your best treasures shouldn't look like a tag sale—even if they came from one. Here's how to give your vintage finds a worthy show place.

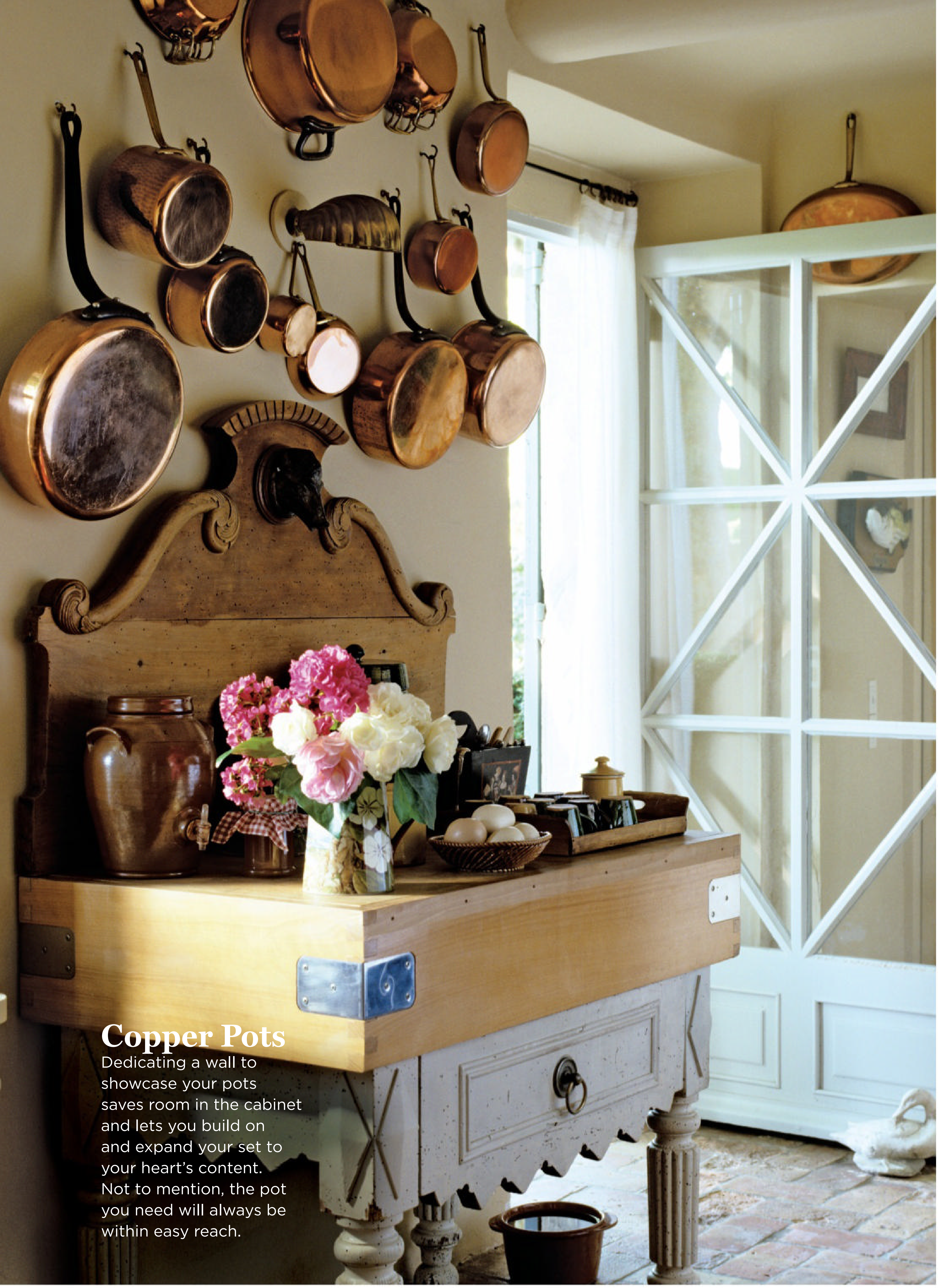


Glassware

Clear a mantel or mount a shelf for a glassware grouping that shares a color family. Give it some space to breathe—keep surrounding artwork simple or opt for none at all. Washing the wall behind it in a faded hue adds drama.

Decor & Collectibles

Let them call you a hoarder if they must. Passionate collectors understand the concept that some things just look better en masse. Whatever strikes your fancy needs a prominent place to show well, however. Space might be tight, but a full wall, built-in shelves, cleared surface or custom case is a must.

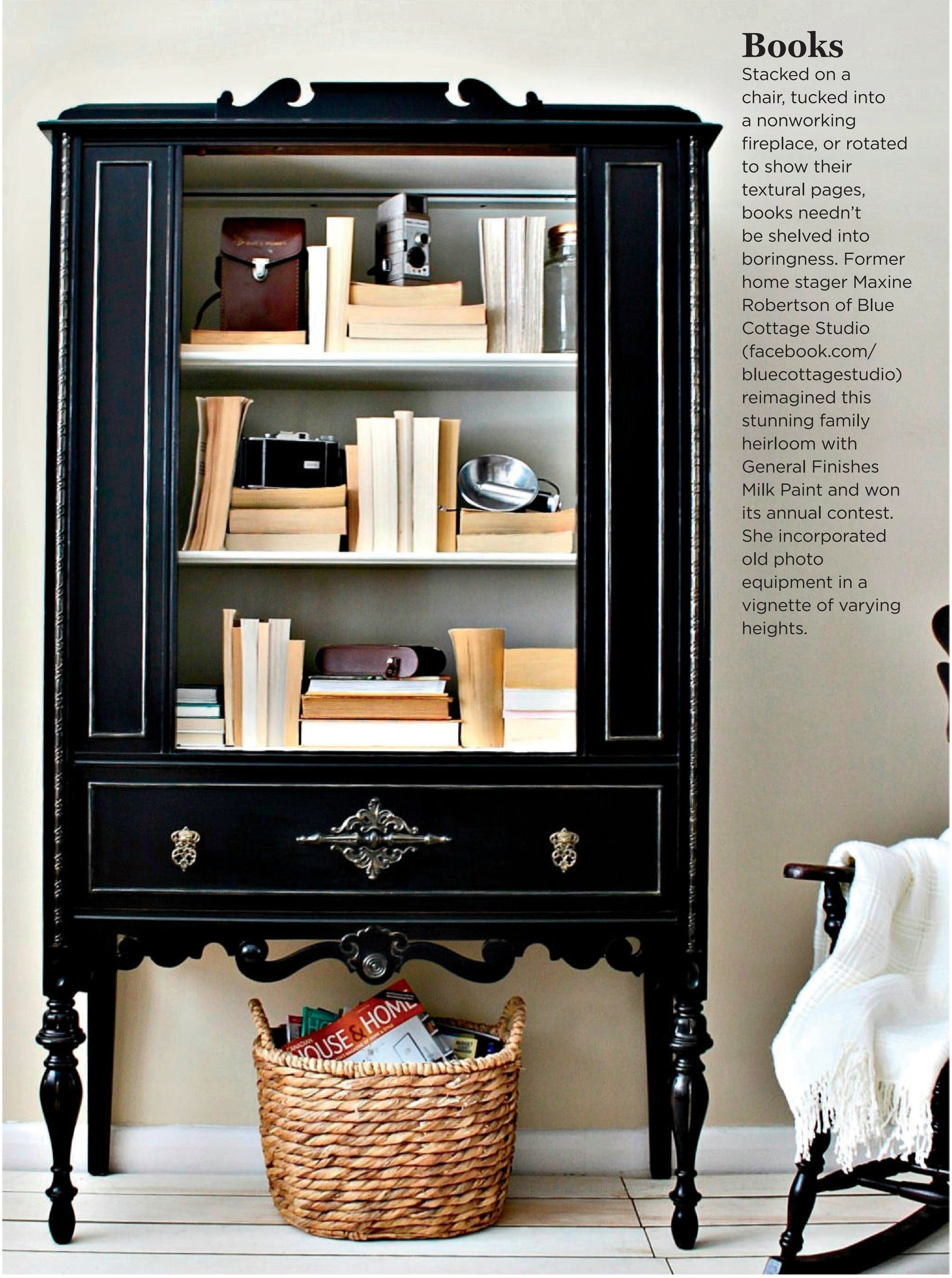


Copper Pots

Dedicating a wall to showcase your pots saves room in the cabinet and lets you build on and expand your set to your heart's content. Not to mention, the pot you need will always be within easy reach.

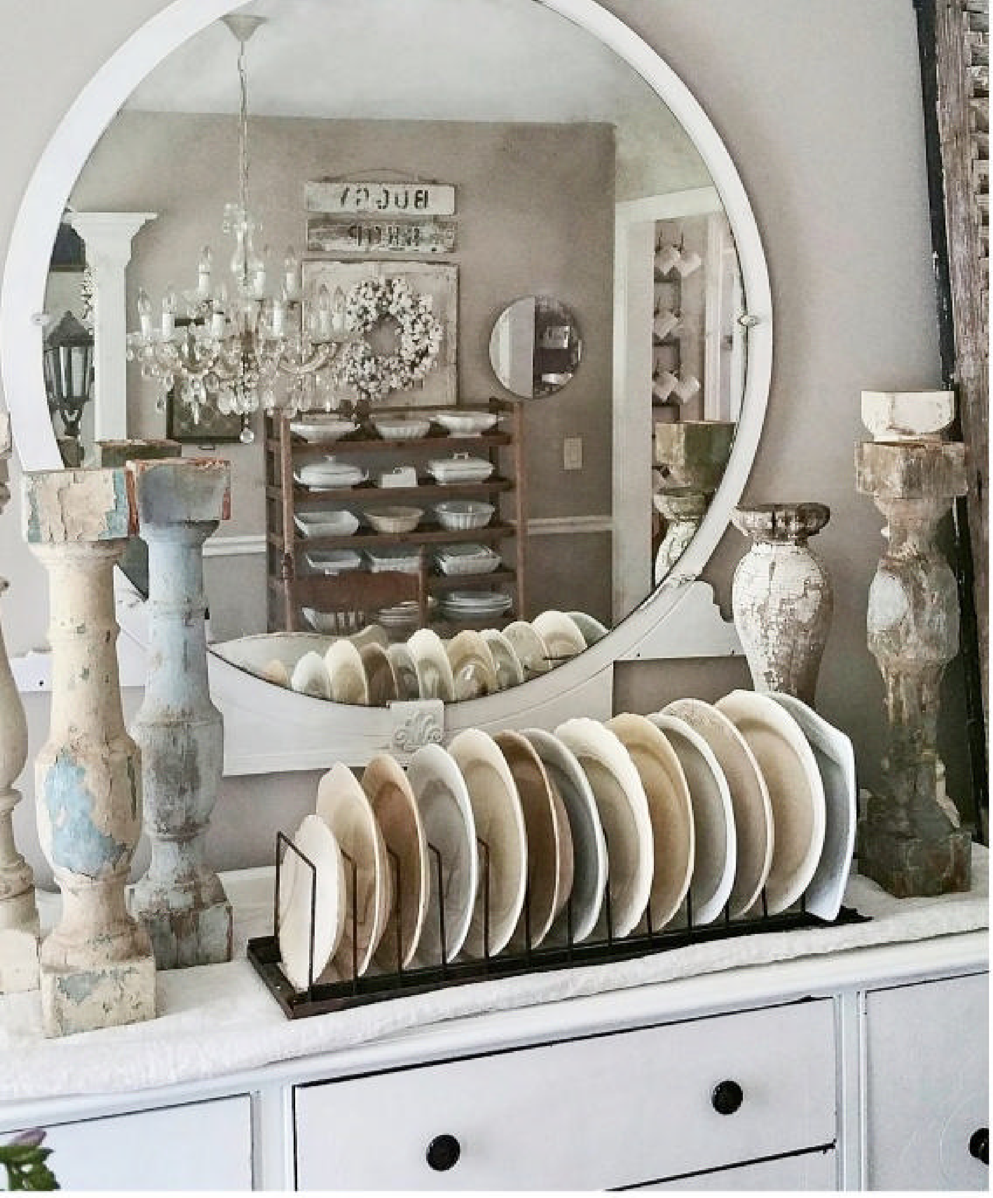
Pottery, Stoneware & Ironstone

Traditional displays of time-honored dishes complete the vintage home. Formal glass-door cabinets keep them neat and dust-free, while open shelves lend a more improvisational feel to your growing collection.



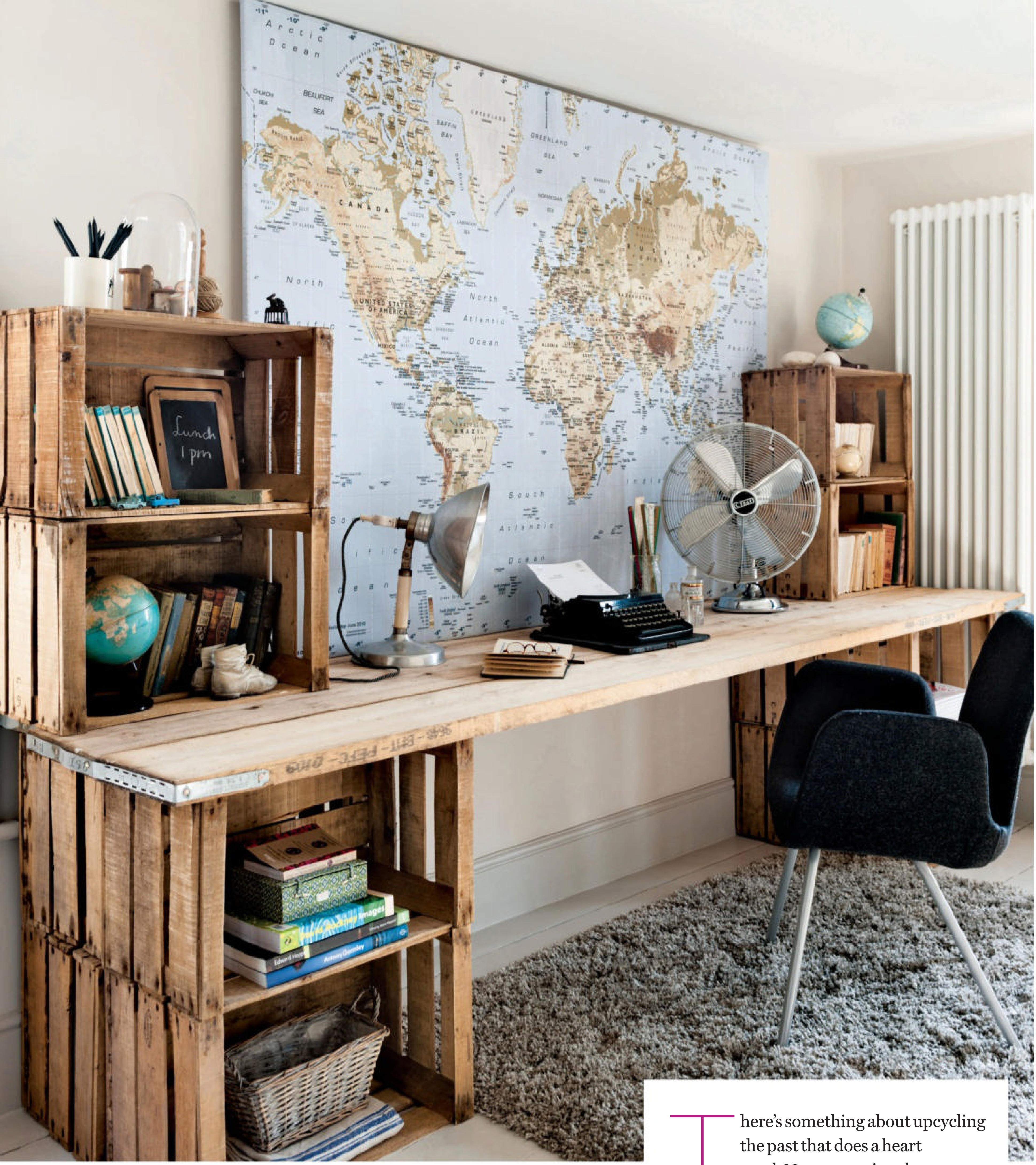
Books

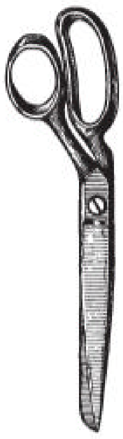
Stacked on a chair, tucked into a nonworking fireplace, or rotated to show their textural pages, books needn't be shelved into boringness. Former home stager Maxine Robertson of Blue Cottage Studio (facebook.com/bluecottagestudio) reimagined this stunning family heirloom with General Finishes Milk Paint and won its annual contest. She incorporated old photo equipment in a vignette of varying heights.



Plates

If a plate wall feels too permanent, consider a plate rack display, in which favorite plates can be swapped in and out on a whim. Amy B. Kinser of @farmhousedreamsabk on Instagram found is industrial piece (top left) at the Nashville Flea Market and repurposed it as a plate rack for some of her significant ironstone collection: "The older and more crazed, the better."





old stuff, new life

Seemingly useless vintage objects and artifacts come into their own again.

There's something about upcycling the past that does a heart good. Not to mention the way repurposed objects bring depth to any room in the house. While common vintage items may seem obsolete, those with a smart eye for design find ways to incorporate them into their existing decor. (Just like these vintage crates.) Whether you've been stacking up cast-offs in your attic or basement or you find them while thrifting and can't resist the price tag, rest assured there's a new use for them.

City Map

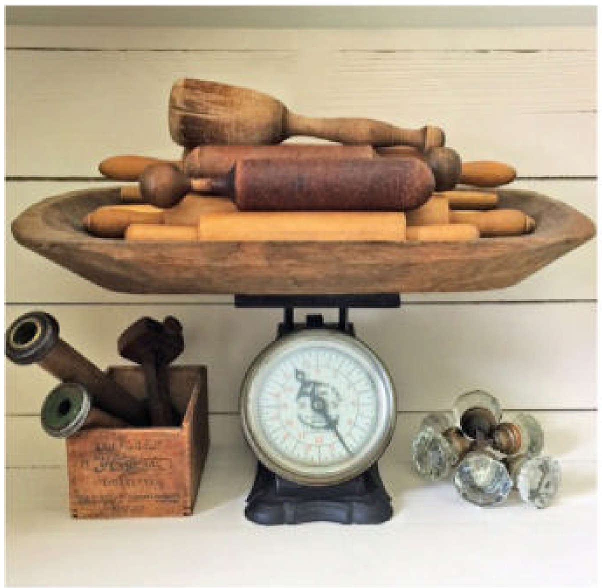
Clever DIY blogger Kristi Dominguez used thin wooden dowels, hot glue and a bit of jute twine to create these minimalist wall hangings. Her maps are vintage reproductions, but any old maps would love to come out of hiding to hang in a similar showcase.

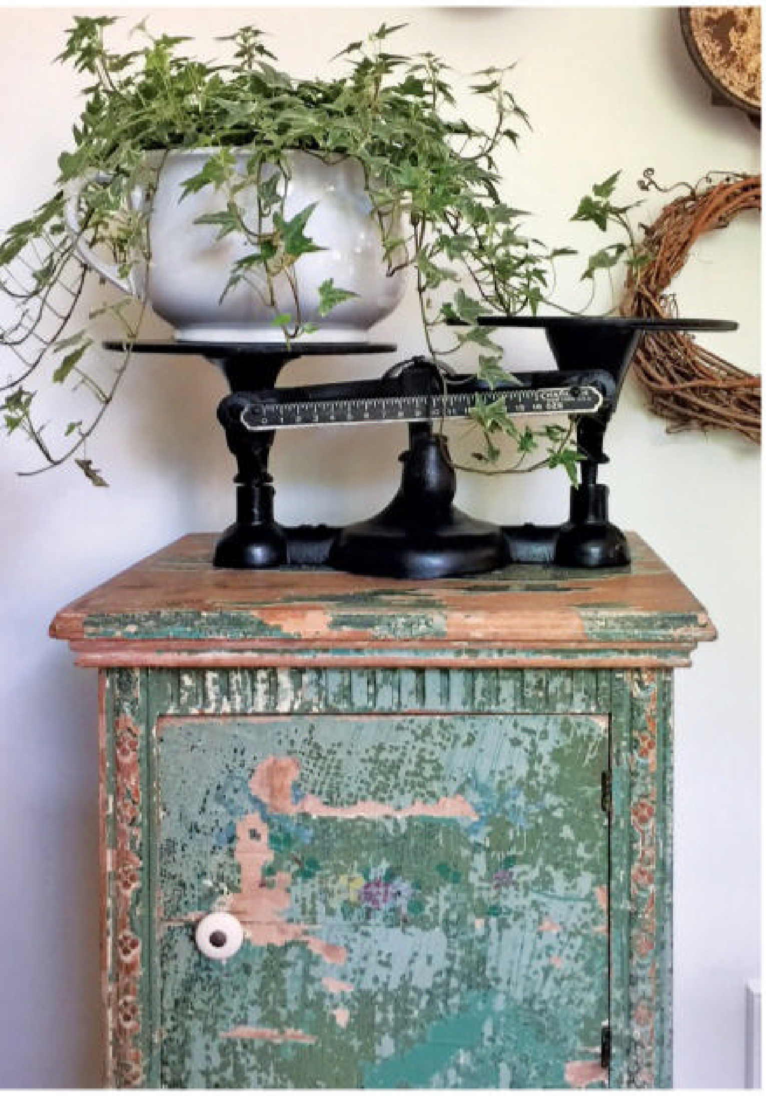
See her full map tutorial: ishouldbemoppingthefloor.com/2018/04/map-wall-art.html

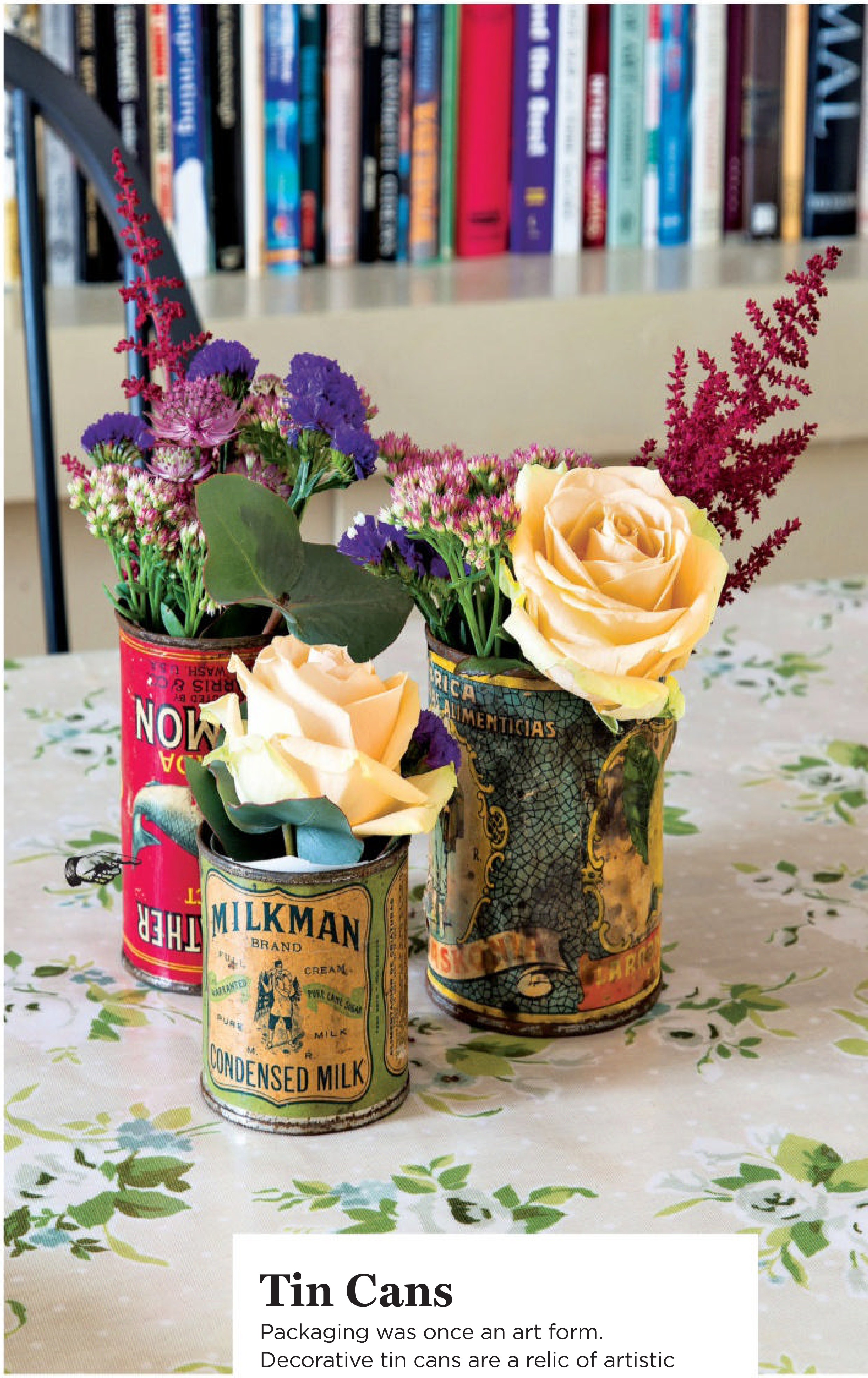
Old Scale

A wonky old kitchen scale or general store scale can easily be a beautiful display piece. Leslie Parrish uses them as stands for plants, books, ironstone and her wooden rolling pin collection.

More of her upcycled ideas are on Instagram: @astonparkhome



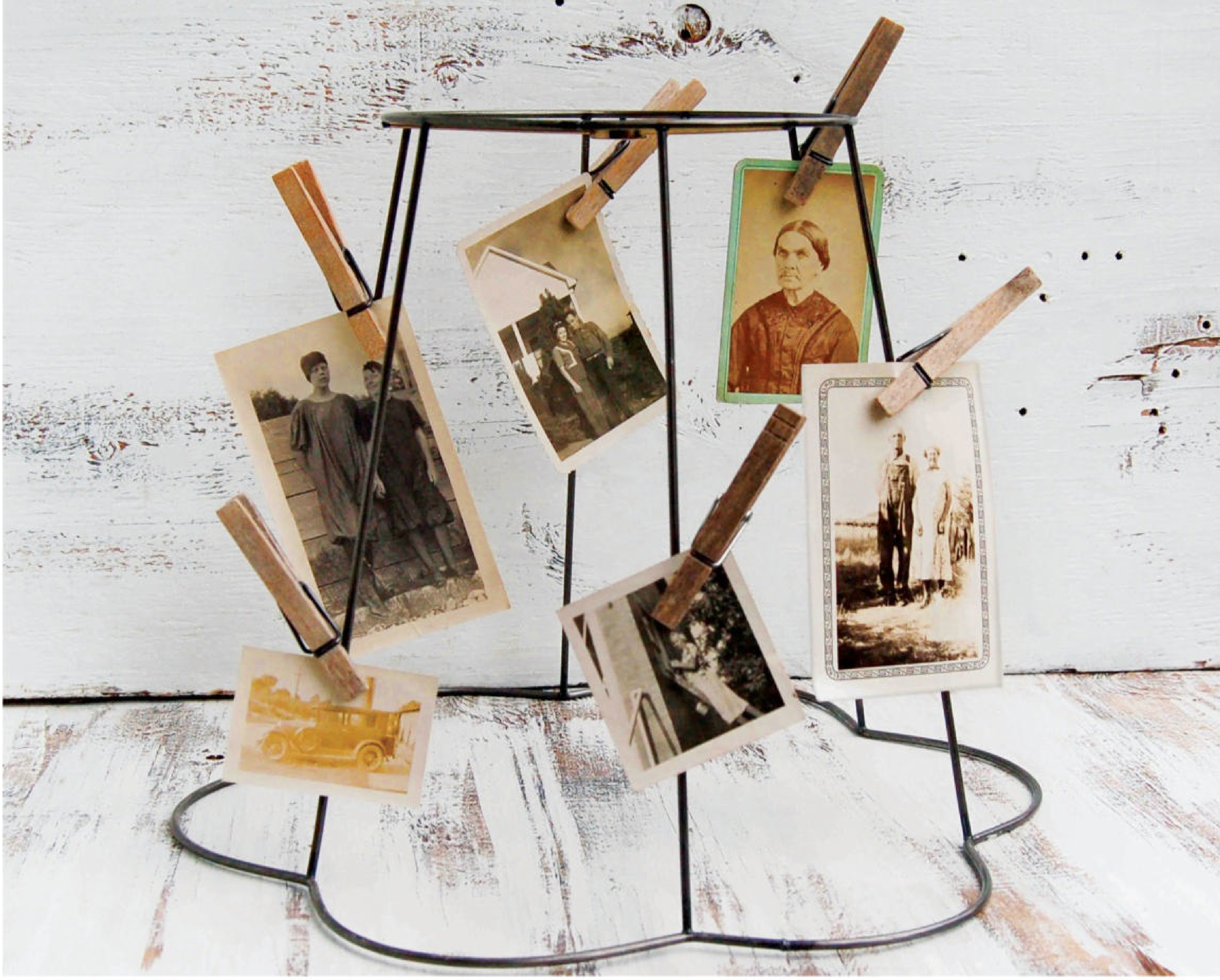




Tin Cans

Packaging was once an art form. Decorative tin cans are a relic of artistic advertising. To prevent rust, use a glass jam jar as your real vase, then place the arrangement inside. Tin beauties also make an artful holder for pens and pencils on a desk. Larger coffee cans are a catch-all for cooking utensils on the counter.

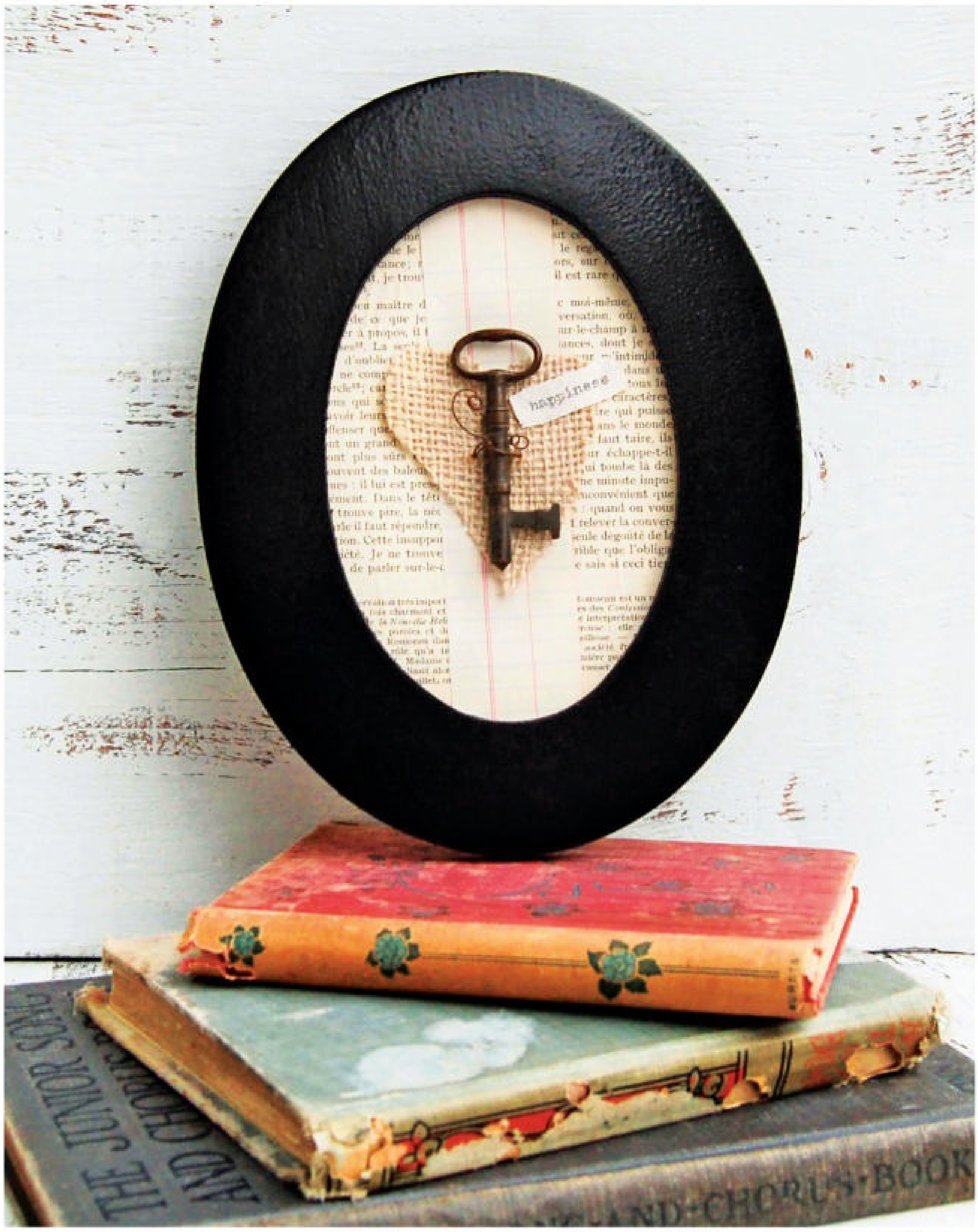
Start your collection by using keywords "vintage decorative tin can" or "vintage tin can decor" on eBay.com

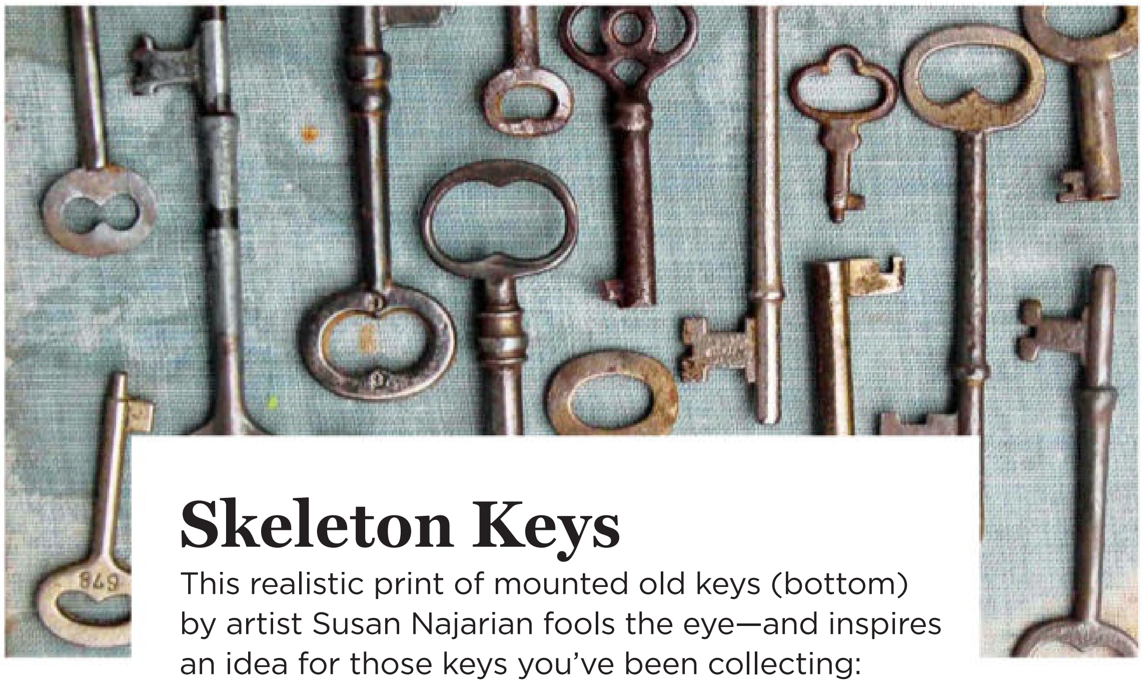


Lampshade Frame

If you've wondered who could possibly find a use for a lampshade with torn fabric—or none at all—the answer is artist Susan Najarian. Her rustic photo display (top) has become a Pinterest favorite. Wooden clothespins complete this 5-minute DIY project.

See her mixed-media art: etsy.com/shop/susannajarian





Skeleton Keys

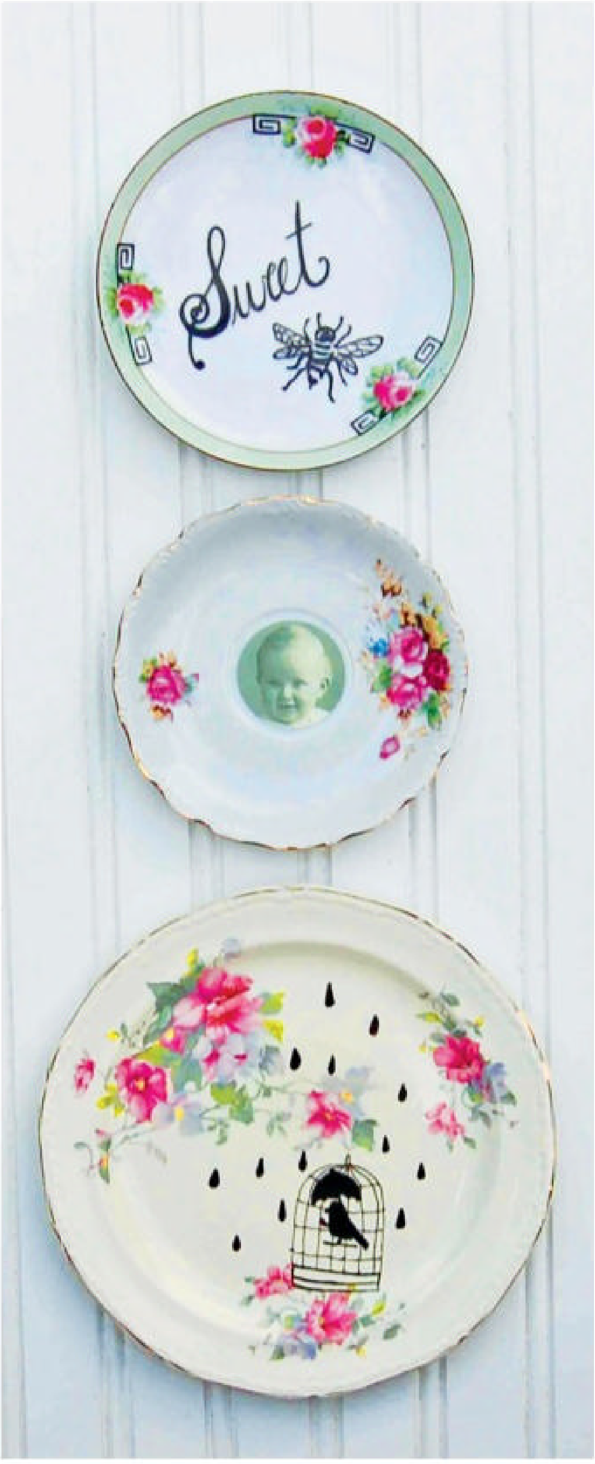
This realistic print of mounted old keys (bottom) by artist Susan Najarian fools the eye—and inspires an idea for those keys you've been collecting: Mount them on fabric and frame them in a shadow box (top).

Browse Najarian's paintings: etsycom/shop/susannajarian; or, for a similar print, see greatbigcanvas.com

China Plates

What to do with old china dishes that are too pretty to give away? If they're not sentimental, they make a fun canvas for doodlers and painters. For a less permanent use, affix a photo to the center of a saucer for an instant photo frame. The pink floral trio below is by artist Susan Najarian.

See her full set: bit.ly/2r7QQFp



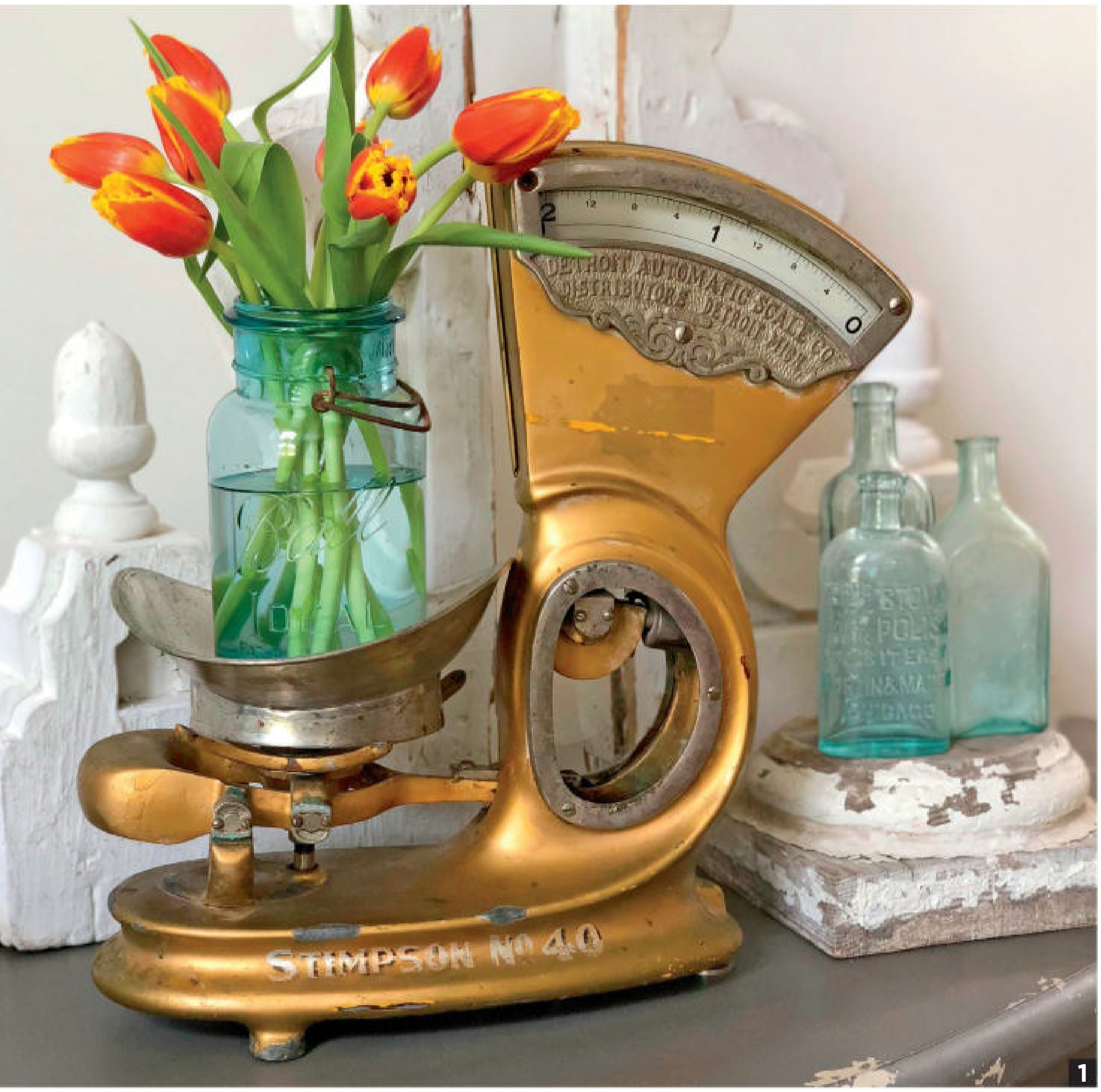
Drawers & Cups

Vintage apothecary cabinets and spice drawers become an indoor green space. On midsummer days, when it's too hot to drink tea, pull out your best cup and saucer sets and pluck a few buds from the garden. These non-conventional vases are even sweeter in pairs.

Search for vintage cabinets you can mount to the wall and old English china teacups on Etsy.com

the art of the vignette

Collectors, bloggers and store owners use these tricks to please the eye.



A perfect display looks effortless. Truth be told, those who create them often follow their own set of "rules" as they group their collections into photogenic clusters on dining room sideboards, nightstands, fireplace mantels, shelves, entry consoles and table centerpieces. In a retail setting, objects increase buyers' desire the more beautifully and skillfully they are arranged.

Most vignettes have a focal point and rely on staggered heights, and a variety of shapes, sizes, textures and materials. Then again, rules are made to be broken!

Experiment with these approaches for a vintage vignette you can rearrange on a whim, then stand back and admire its "effortless" appeal.

#1

Symmetry starts with a centerpiece

A prominent center object acts as a focal point. On a mantel or buffet, two pieces that are not as tall (such as a pair of vases or lamps) balance the ends as you fill in the middle. Symmetry lends a sense of calm and order to any space.

#2

Group your finds by threes and fives

Combine this golden rule of vignettes with other rules or use it on its own with items of staggered heights.

#3

Big goes first Your biggest items are anchors to craft your scene around. Consider how you will fill in your vertical space, not just the horizontal.

#4

Envision a triangle Our eyes scan from left to right. Place your tallest item on the upper left, then stagger them down in height. Or, pair with a long, low object on the right, then add items to connect them. In a group of three, use a tall item in back, a shorter, heavier one on the left and something small, light and sculptural on the right front. (It's easier than it sounds!)

1 A triangle-shaped arrangement by Leslie Parrish of @astonparkhome on Instagram also includes the "rule of three" bottles. **2** Parrish has perfected the art of symmetry on her living room mantel.

JUST
ENOUGH
grace
FOR
TODAY

A fireplace mantel that displays symmetry brings calm.

2

1

#5

Pair a mom and baby Forgo the "threes and fives" rule and match two similar objects together in a "mom-and-baby" scale.

#6

Go monochromatic Milk glass, ironstone, jadeite and pink depression glass all work for creating single-color displays with potential for drama.

#7

Work in layers Just like your grade school class photos, tall stands in back, shorter in front. Play with frames, mirrors and trays on end. You can also layer bottom to top, stacking up items in varying heights.

#8

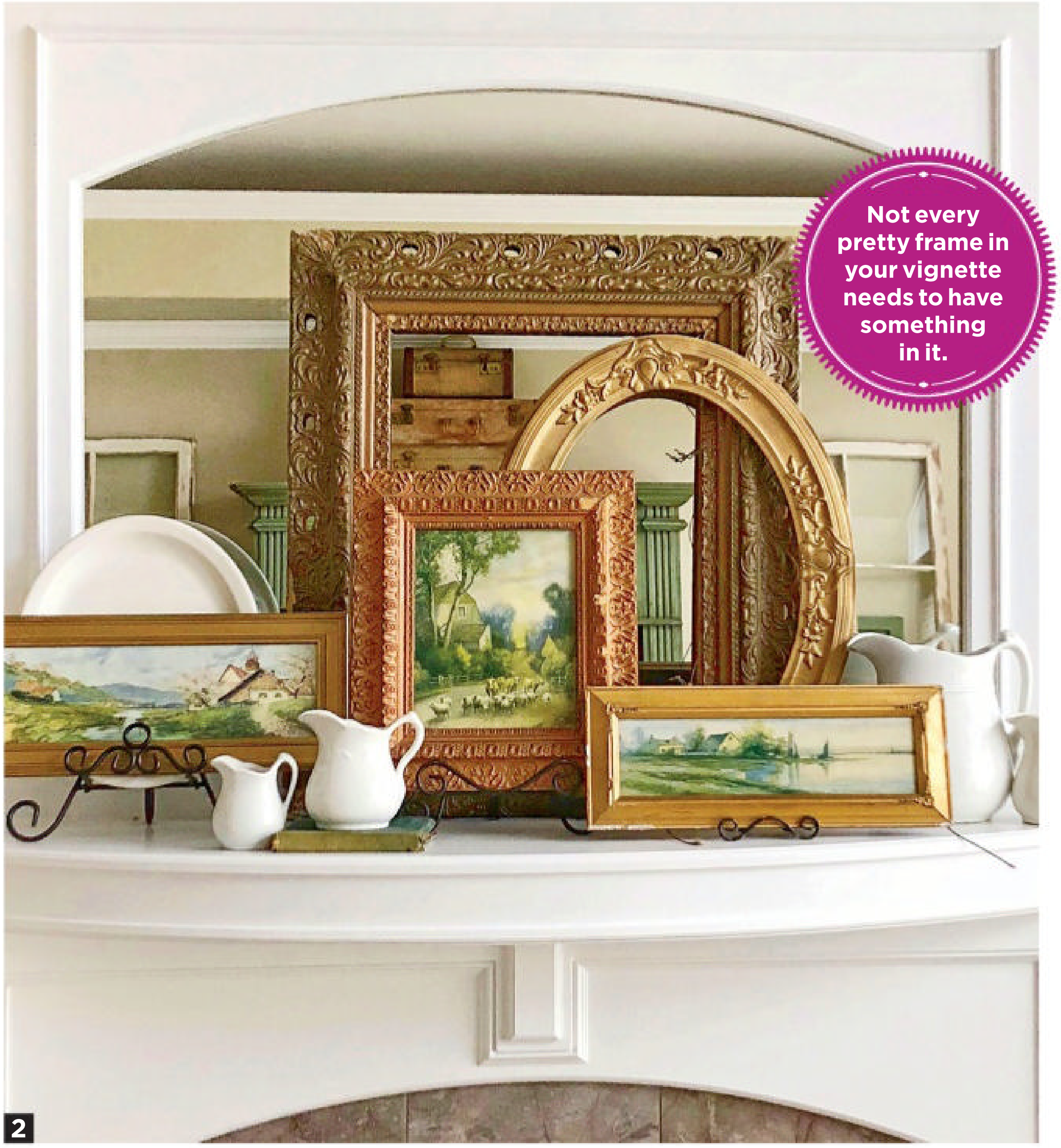
Build from a base Try a tray, scale, shallow basket, table runner, box, cutting board or books as a foundation piece to get creative on.

#9

Mix materials, shapes and sizes for contrast and texture The ultimate display blends shiny, matte, soft, hard, glass, wood, metal, paper, fabric, stone—and something living. Overwhelmed? Start with a simple contrast of clean white pieces and add sterling silver and/or wood.

#10

Consider a twist From a succulent under a glass cloche (right) to a whimsical figurine or stack of books with pages facing the front, your imagination sets your vignettes apart.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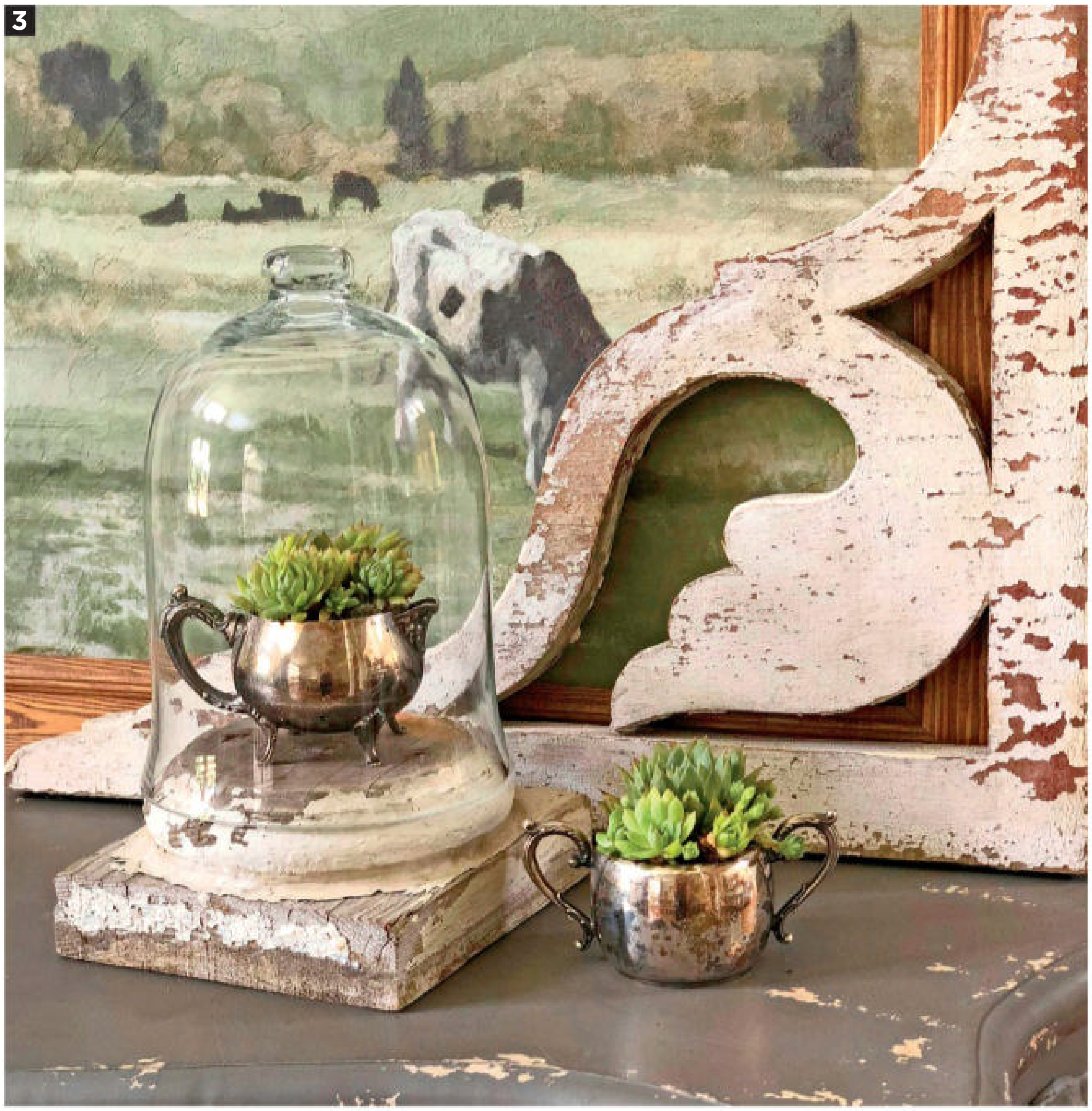
Not every pretty frame in your vignette needs to have something in it.


3

1 Debra Kolrud of @vintagecrushin on Instagram built up from a tray to create this beauty. **2** Kolrud layers frames of art and mirrors; she left one empty. **3** Leslie Parrish deftly combines Tips 5, 8, 9 and 10 for this "mom-and-baby" vignette.

The Carnaby line from Danish glassmaker Holmegaard has a distinct flat top.

1

glass act

What you might not know about your clear (or opaque) favorite.

The first glass vessels were made about 1500 B.C., in Egypt and Mesopotamia. We've come a long way since then! Sophisticated methods and innovative companies have given us plenty of options for filling our cabinets—and flea-market wish lists.

MIDCENTURY ART GLASS

Colors Red, orange, yellow, amber, blue, green, amethyst

Collecting 411 These blown-glass beauties, are, generally speaking, neither rare nor a bargain. Smaller pieces start around $30.

How to Spot It Look for tall, slender vases; decanters with ball-shaped or Arabian-style stoppers; low bowls and pedestal dishes with giant scalloped sides. American-made Blenko glass is so synonymous with mid-century glassmaking that some mistake the company name for the name of this genre of glass.

Good to Know No midcentury-modern home feels complete without a piece of—or an entire shelving unit filled with—bright and shapely glass. Companies worldwide produced the coveted pieces from the 1940s through the 1970s. Many sought to copy the streamlined Scandinavian styles that complemented Danish Modern furniture. Italian Murano glass is showy and formal. Very mod Holmegaard Glass' Carnaby line is distinguished by a flat mouth on top and, often, an inner white lining. Viking and Orrefors were other makers.

1 Few can resist an assemblage of midcentury glass, which makes a fun centerpiece. **2** Contrasting colors are often more interesting than those that match perfectly. **3** A collection of glass decanters with shapely stoppers makes a dramatic display.

DO IT AGAIN IN '68
LAURIE SIMMONS
LongHouse
Paris Interiors

2

3

Mix and match vintage glassware on a bar cart.

1 Metallic gold with black was a much-used combination for late-midcentury cocktail glasses. **2** A blue Depression-glass pedestal cup with hobnail detail. **3** Pink Depression glass can be fun to collect and affordable enough to use every day without worry.

1950s–1970s BARWARE

Colors Bright colors and/or metallic gold silk-screened on glass

Collecting 411 A full set, with coordinating ice bucket, tongs, pitcher with glass stirrer, jigger and/or carrier for the glasses is increasingly hard to come by. Miscellaneous highball and old-fashioned glasses are less so.

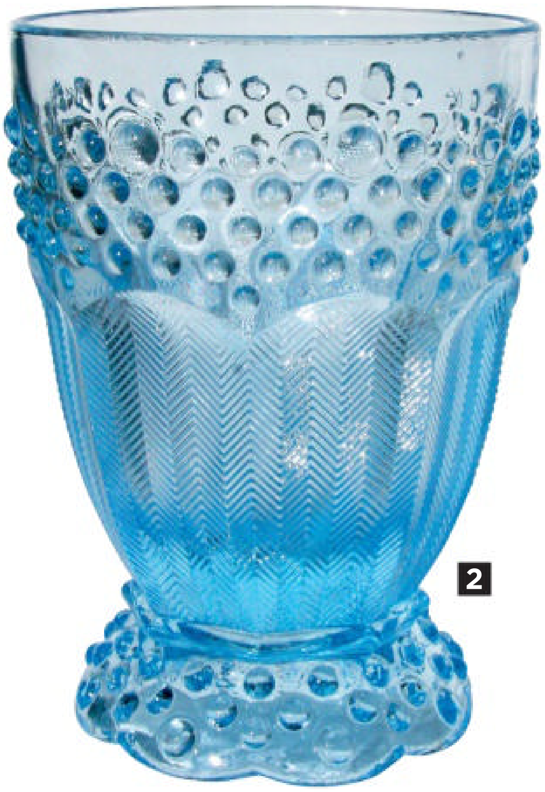
How to Spot It All shapes and sizes of cocktail glasses were produced by such makers as Culver, Dorothy Tharpe, Georges Briard, Tiffinware, Colony and Fred Press. Retro patterns range from atomic space-age to geometric optic art, cane/rattan, Hollywood Regency and glasses themed for specific drinks. The 1970s brought patterns with a Spanish flavor and darker, moodier designs, some pairing black with metallic gold.

Good to Know Count on building your collection by mixing and matching, since you'll likely be able to find only a few glasses in any given style. Many vintage cocktail glasses are heavy with gold. Even if not, plan to hand wash them after every party.

DEPRESSION/PRESSED GLASS

Colors Pink, green, blue, yellow, amber, red, clear

Collecting 411 Pink is most common, but some patterns are more elusive than others. Many collectors just love the sweet, bygone romance of the pink glass and are less concerned with its actual worth.



How to Spot It Patterns are smoother and softer than cut glass and usually show thin seams along the edge from the mold that was used. Highly visible seams indicate lower quality, but this does not necessarily make them less desirable or less attractive.

Good to Know Pressed glass is also known as "pattern" or "molded" glass. Molten glass is pressed into a mold to form its shape and exterior design. These economical pieces were first produced between 1850 and 1910, then fell out of fashion in favor of crystal. During the Great Depression, they regained popularity, with new patterns and colors. Inexpensive but elegant, they were mass-produced by two dozen or so manufacturers—including Anchor Hocking, Federal, Fenton, Hazel Atlas, Imperial, Indiana, MacBeth-Evans and Westmoreland—from the late 1920s through the early 1940s.

CUT GLASS AND LEAD CRYSTAL

Colors Clear is most common; rich jewel tones include ruby red, cranberry, amber, yellow, cobalt blue and emerald green.

Collecting 411 Facets sparkle in the light. The higher the clarity and more brilliant the piece, the higher the lead content and, many times, the value.

How to Spot It Clear and brilliant, with sharp details, well-defined patterns cut by grinding and polishing (by hand or machine) and no marks from a mold; intricate designs, three-

> “It is the love of glass and of finding pieces that brings the joy.”
>
> Francis Smith, author of *The Facts About Collectable Glass*

1

For parties, decanters filled with bourbon, vodka, brandy, rum, tequila or red wine add a festive touch.

1 Cut-glass handles on a silver tray add elegance to a serving vignette. **2** A tower of milk-glass cake stands with ruffled edges makes for a pretty display. **3** Founded in 1915, Pyrex still makes colorful, heat-resistant dishes.

2

Fancy milk glass is pricey, unless you luck out at a thrift store.

3

dimensional texture and a luxurious look. Heavier (crystal) pieces contain more lead, creating more brilliance. Pieces ring when struck gently.

Good to Know Some have questioned the safety of drinking from lead crystal; experts now agree it's safe (but avoid storing liquids in it). All cut glass contains some amount of lead, which is essential to the cutting process; crystal contains much more, to make it sparkle. The two look so similar that many tricks have been devised to help discern which is which. Crystal has a thinner rim, a longer, drawn-out chime and shows a rainbow when held to light.

MILK GLASS AND JADEITE

Colors Pink, yellow, pale and aqua blue, brown, black and green (jadeite)

Collecting 411 Originally an affordable alternative to porcelain, it's pretty but not rare. The rarest pieces are the oldest (often from the 1800s) and bear a characteristic "ring of fire": a halo of iridescent colors around the edge when held up to sunlight. Their deep white is a contrast to more translucent, duller pieces, such as the cute but common 1950s and '60s bud vases. Prices vary wildly by piece.

How to Spot It Look for slightly opaque, creamy colors; silky texture; ruffled edges; raised patterns (like grapes or nubby hobnail dots) and serving plates with cutout rims. It's decorative yet functional: You'll see cake stands, butter dishes and lidded bowls.

Good to Know Glassmakers in 16th-century Venice fabricated it first, but milk glass has ridden waves of popularity ever since. Jadeite, made by McKee, Jeannette and Anchor Hocking, debuted in the 1930s. Soon after, stackable glass boxes with flat lids (a precursor to Tupperware) were a necessity. Martha Stewart's museum-worthy collection (she brought it back into vogue in the 1990s) would make anyone pale-green with envy.

PYREX GLASSWARE

Colors Besides the solid Primary Colors sets, there are also colored patterns on white or white patterns on a color.

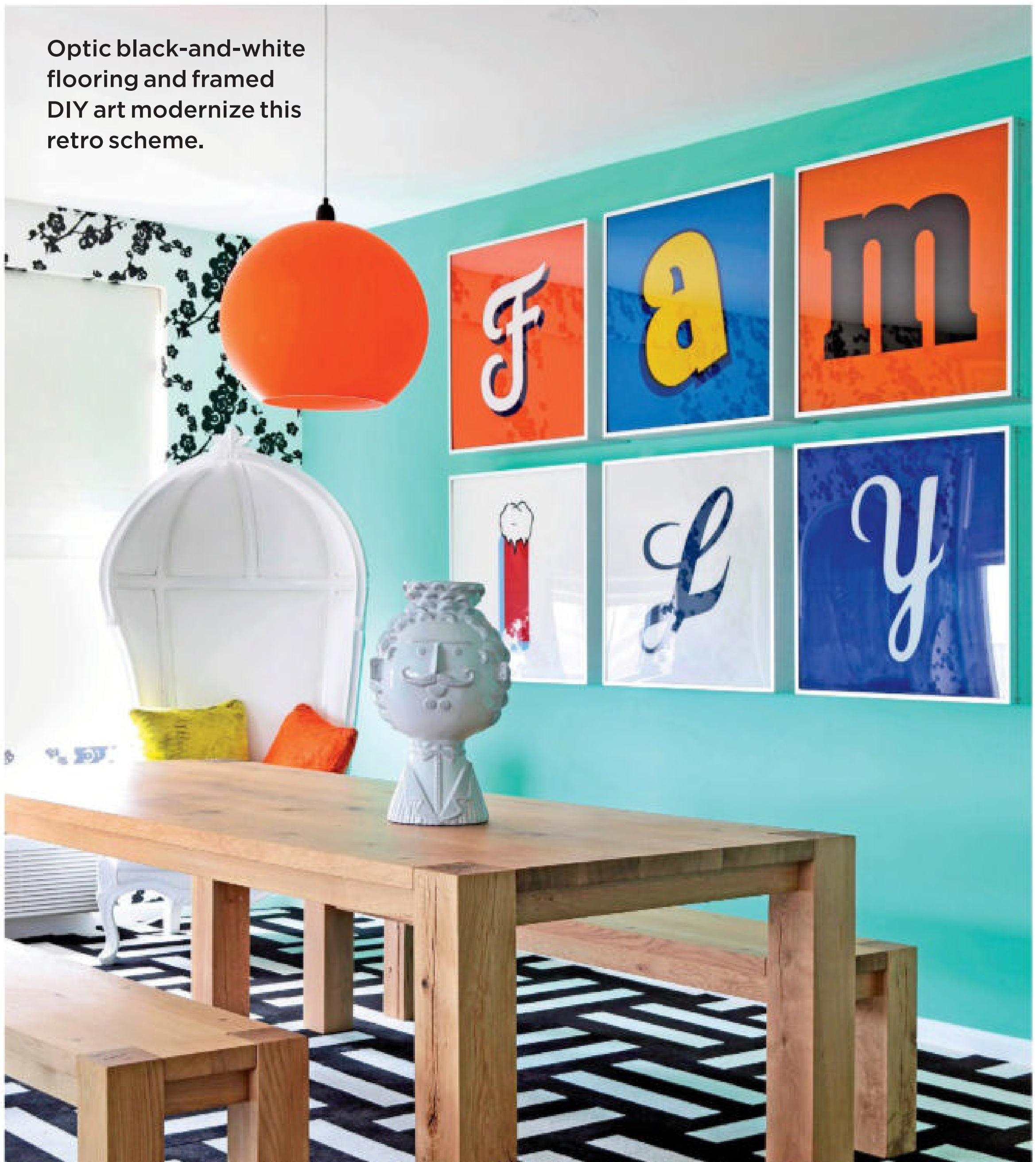
Collecting 411 Pristine pieces in rare shapes and patterns fetch top dollar. A colorful bowl can start at $35 to $50.

How to Spot It Does anyone *not* recognize Pyrex? For many, the mixing bowls and casserole dishes evoke memories of making cookies and family dinners. A Pyrex logo is on the bottom.

Good to Know Its cult following includes nostalgic great-grandmothers and obsessed millennials with Pyrex tattoos.

aqua loves red

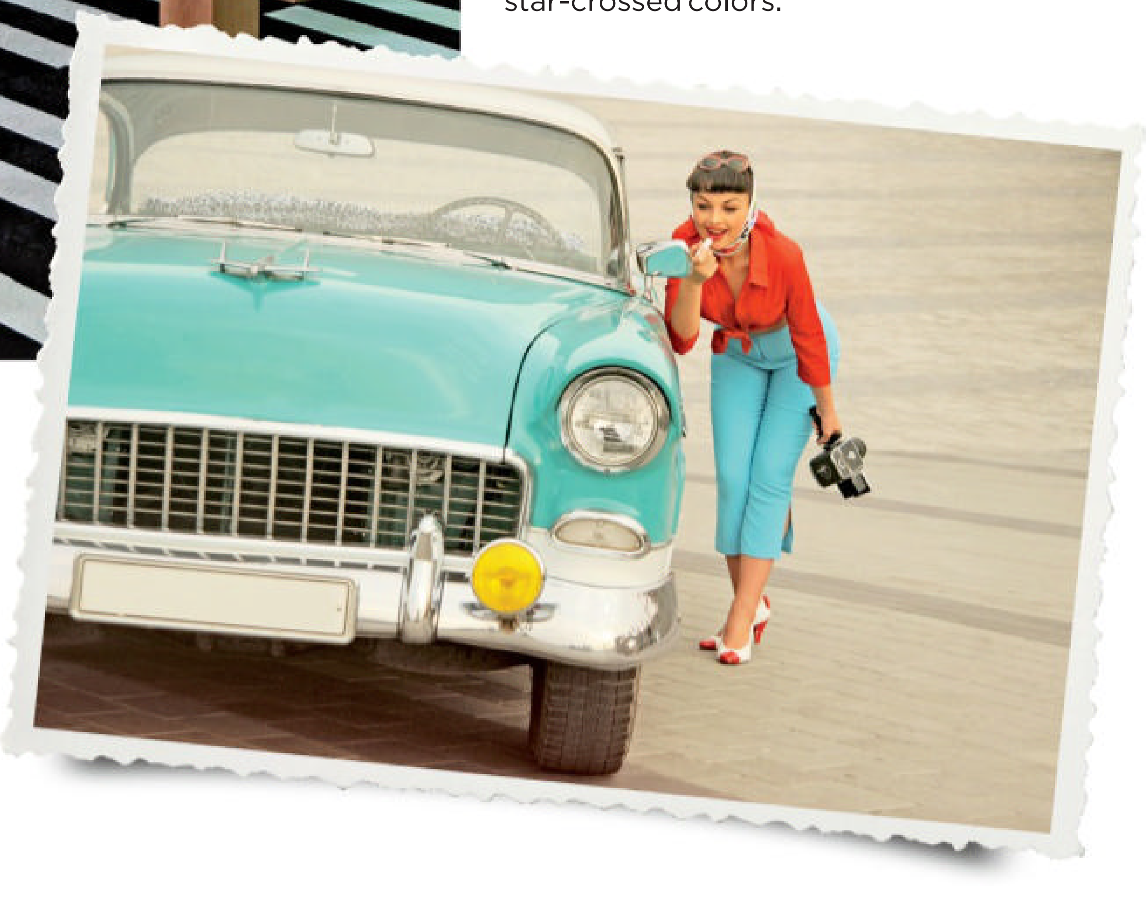
This unlikely pair of colors remain a match made in vintage-inspired heaven.



Optic black-and-white flooring and framed DIY art modernize this retro scheme.

We like to envision it was during the rockabilly heyday of the 1950s when cool shades of aqua and turquoise first mustered the courage to sidle up to a steamy hot hue of lipstick red. It's a high-energy duo we tend to associate with kitschy kitchens—made even more so with a black-and-white checkered floor and a cherry-print ruffled apron or vintage printed tablecloth. But one of the most time-tested color combos rocks out in any room you dare to try it in.

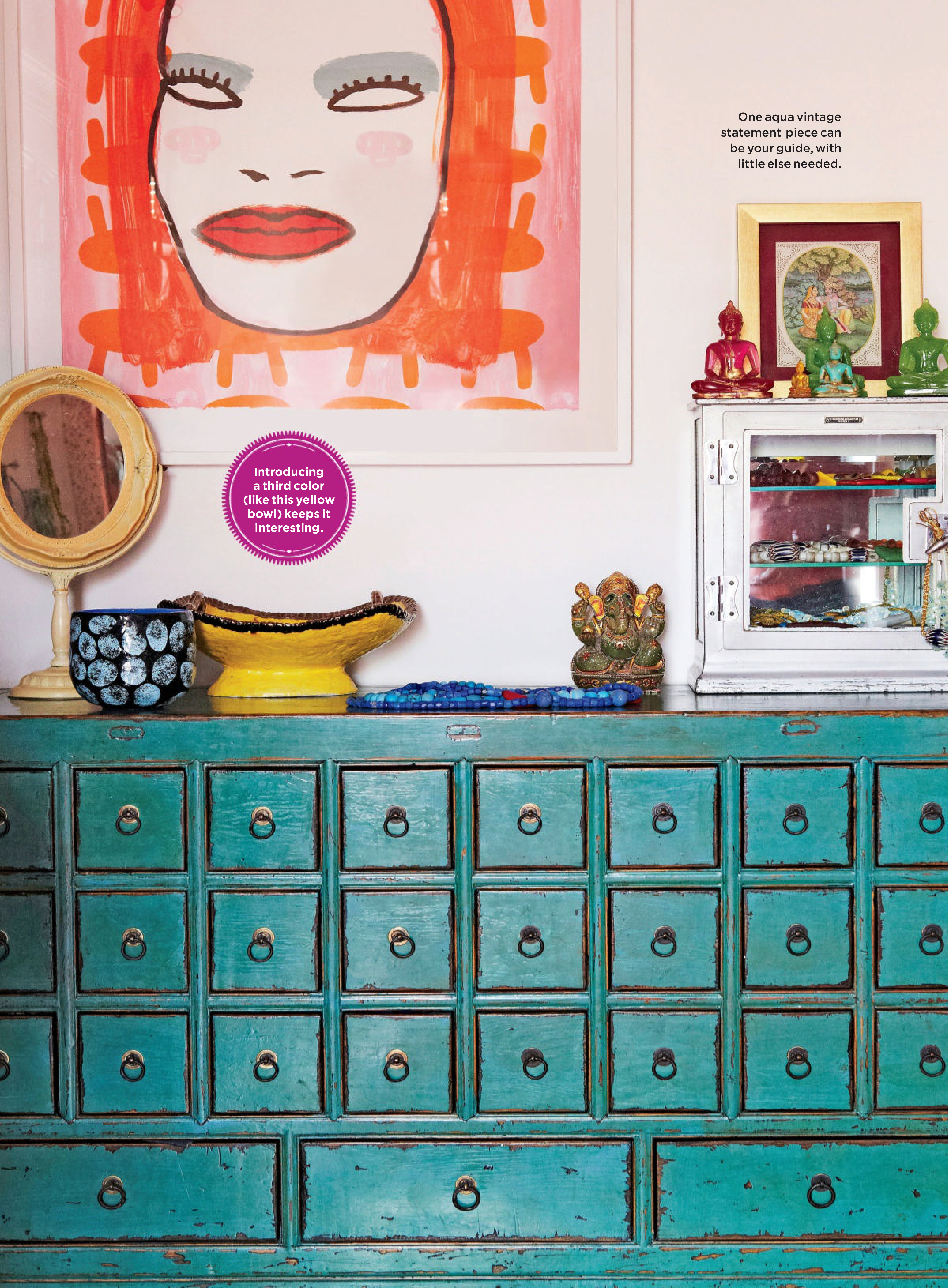
The trick to pulling it off? Start with a foundation of white, layer in the blue, then add pops of red. A scheme this bold can be easy to overdo. If this twosome feels overpowering, just tone it down with softer shades (minty or sky blue and pink). Take inspiration from a blue paint chip or a red piece of furniture, then play around until you find a kismet color mate that contrasts but still brings harmony. Check Pinterest for loads of aqua and red mood boards and sample color palettes. Then swing your way back to simpler times, all thanks to these two star-crossed colors.



This photo sums up the concept: a white foundation, a wash of aqua and a pop of kitschy lipstick red.

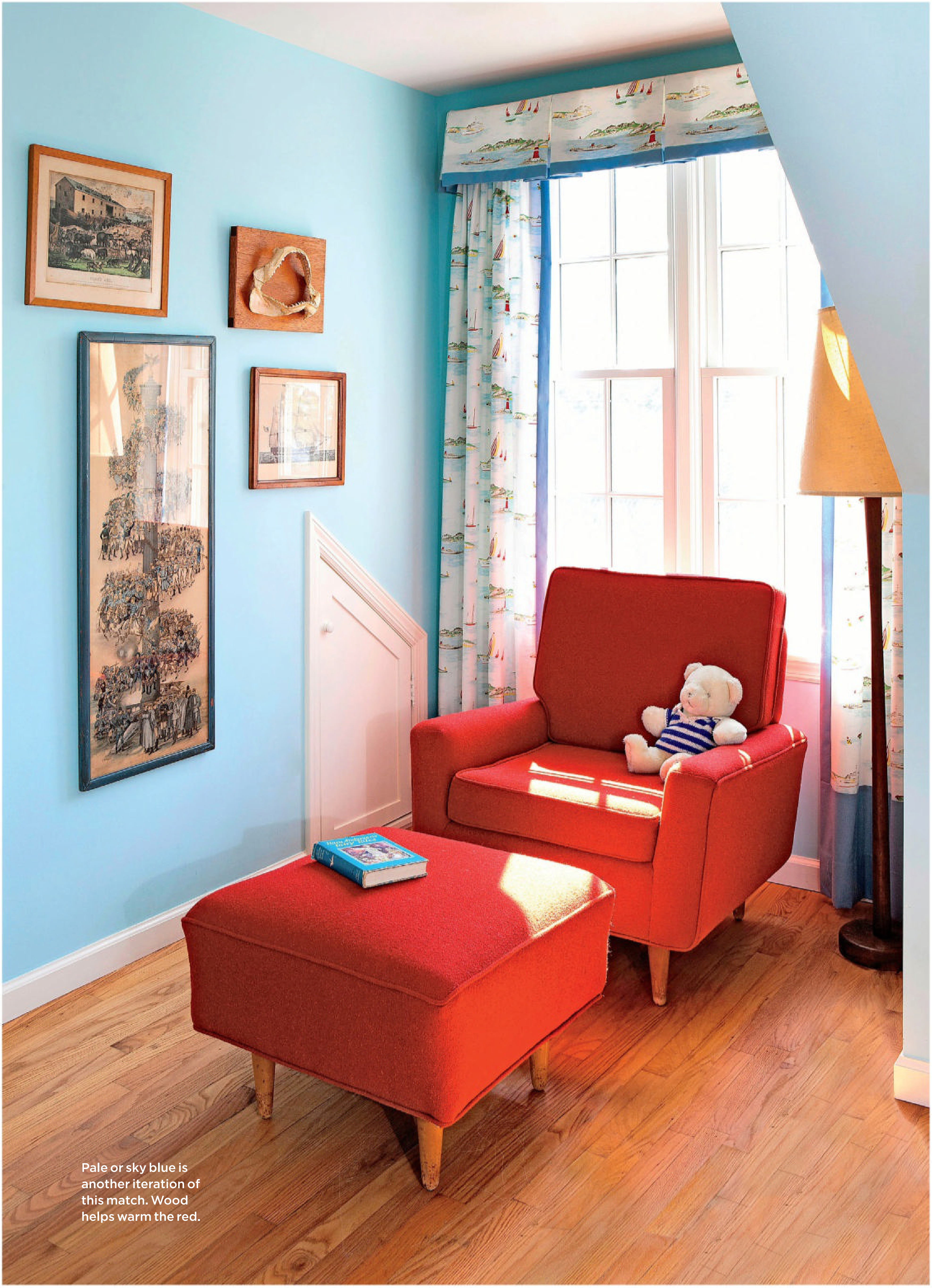
Add some metallic shine and adjust the hues to suit your taste.

London
London
TASCHEN

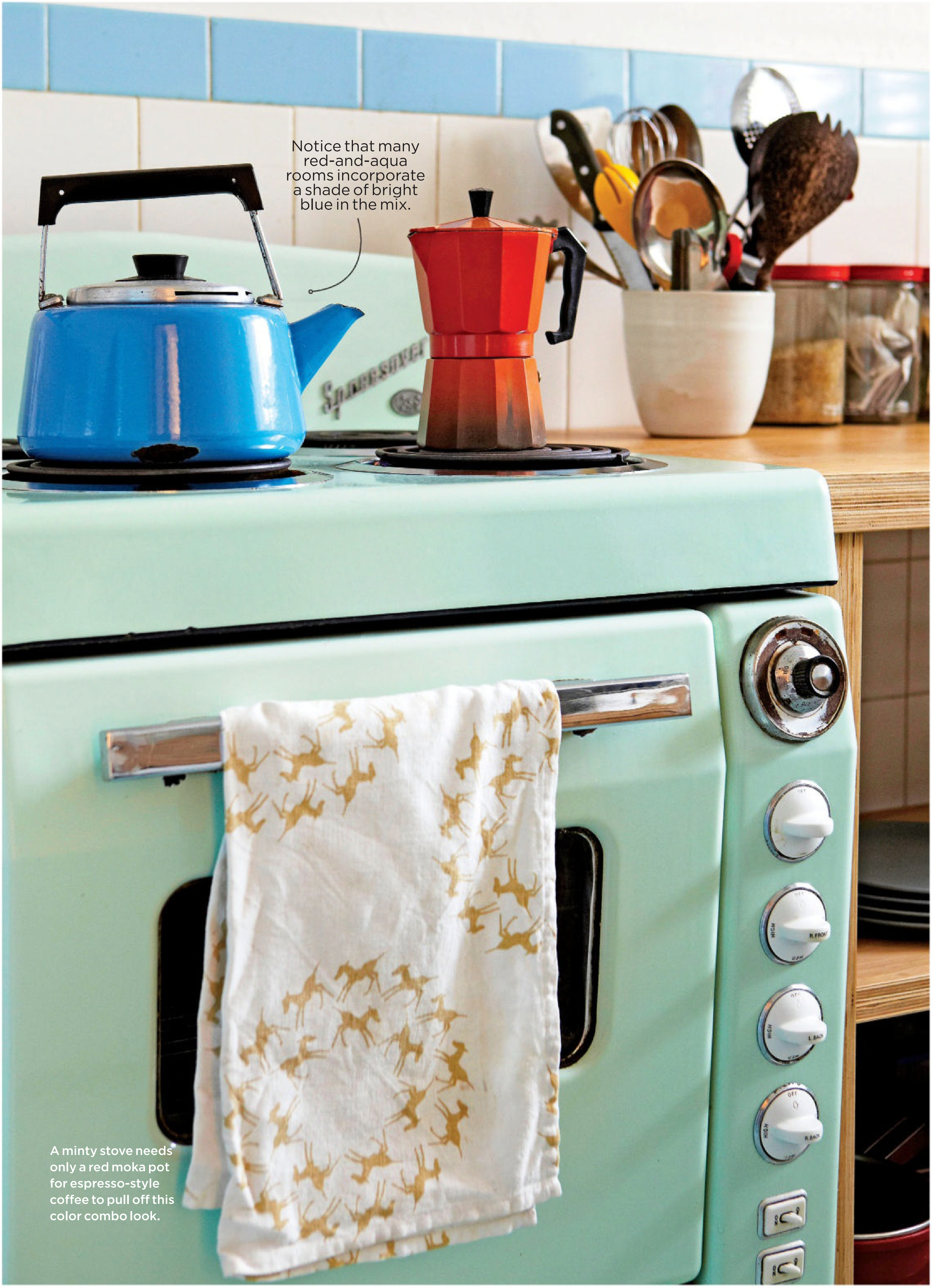


One aqua vintage statement piece can be your guide, with little else needed.

Introducing a third color (like this yellow bowl) keeps it interesting.



Pale or sky blue is another iteration of this match. Wood helps warm the red.



Notice that many red-and-aqua rooms incorporate a shade of bright blue in the mix.

A minty stove needs only a red moka pot for espresso-style coffee to pull off this color combo look.

STELLA ARTOIS
BROUWERIJ ARTOIS BIER
LEUVEN
BRASSERIE ARTOIS BIERE
Campbell's
Zuppa di
Pomodoro
SOUP
AMI
AIR

Found objects, pop art and modern furniture follow this scheme with ease.

Let one piece take the lead role while others support in a similar style.

from found to finished!

These DIY weekend projects are glam game-changers for minimal time and cost.

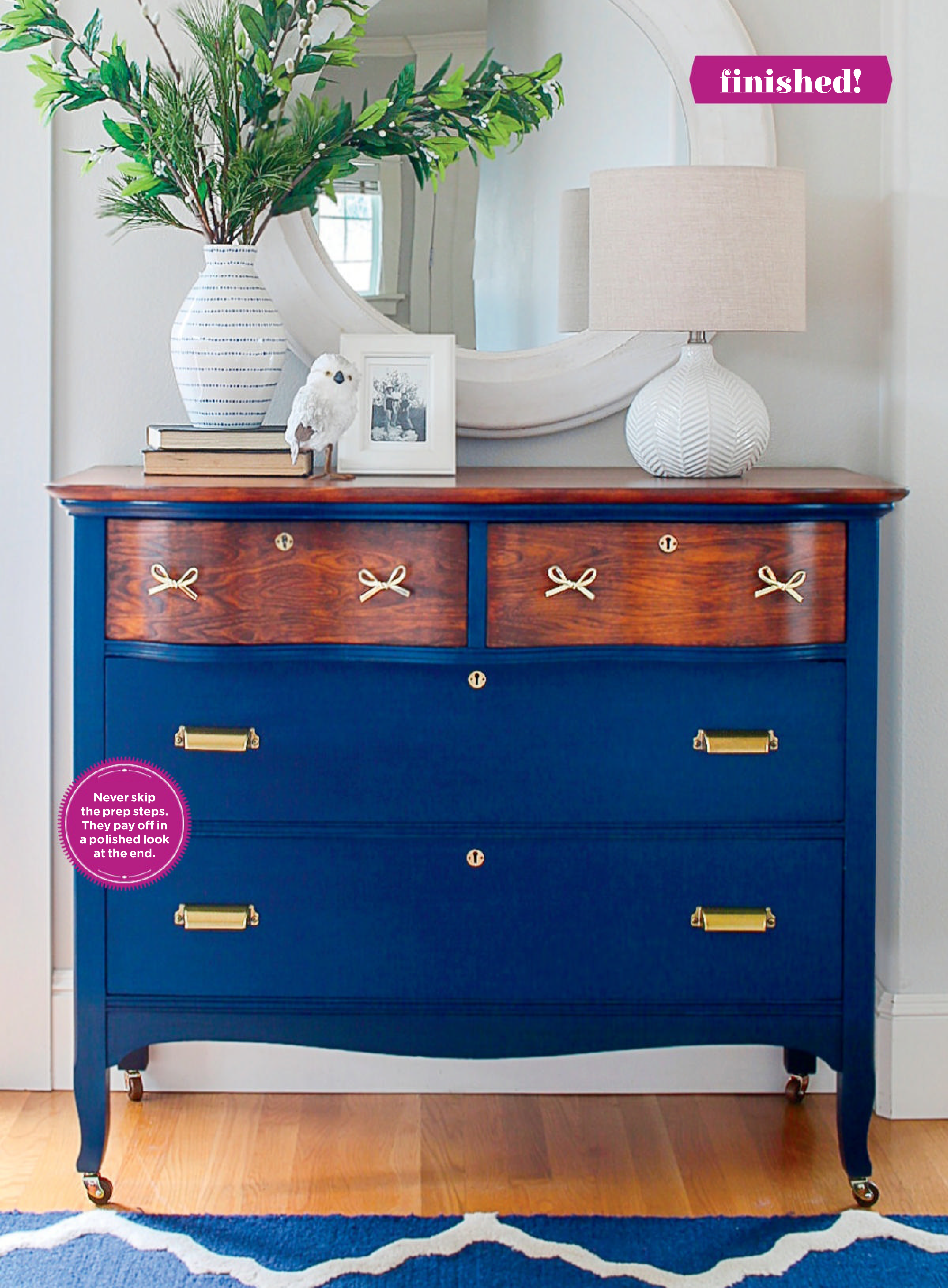
NAVY BRASS WOULD LOVE THIS DRESSY DRESSER

Furniture makeovers are both a passion and a business for Susan Handler of SawNailAndPaint.com. She lists her exquisite results on Seattle's Craigslist under the tag "sawnailandpaint." This serpentine-style dresser was in sorry shape when she scored it on a thrifting trip. "I'm guessing the previous owner started to refinish it and gave up," she says of its forlorn condition. "I had to go the extra mile to bring it back to life, but I am so happy with the results."

HOW TO MAKE IT

❶ Remove the top by unscrewing it from the base to make it easier to refinish.
❷ Remove any hardware and, if applicable, keyhole covers, using care not to bend them.
❸ To remove swirl marks on top, Handler sanded it (going from course to fine grit: 80 to 120 to 220 grit).
❹ Stain with one coat General Finishes Gel Stain in Antique Walnut. Let dry for a day. Seal with General Finishes High Performance Topcoat in Satin.
❺ "Because the finish on the rest of the dresser was in such poor condition, I decided to strip it using Citri-Strip," reveals Handler. "Simply painting over an existing finish that is in bad shape will not yield good results. Prep is so important! It took a few coats, and stripping is pretty messy, but I got it down to bare wood."
❻ "The wood on the top two drawers was still very pretty, so I decided to stain and seal them. I let them dry and then lightly sanded them with 220 grit sandpaper. I then stained and sealed them in the same manner as the top."
❼ Paint the rest of the dresser with two coats of General Finishes Milk Paint in Coastal Blue. Seal with General Finishes High Performance Topcoat.
❽ Clean brass keyhole covers and polish with Brasso before replacing.
❾ Handler added new brass bow pulls (from Land of Nod) to the top drawers, brass cup pulls to bottom drawers and a reproduction skeleton key (from House of Antique Hardware), along with replacement casters.

Get all the project details sawnailandpaint.com/2017/02/20/serpentine-dresser-makeover-navy-brass

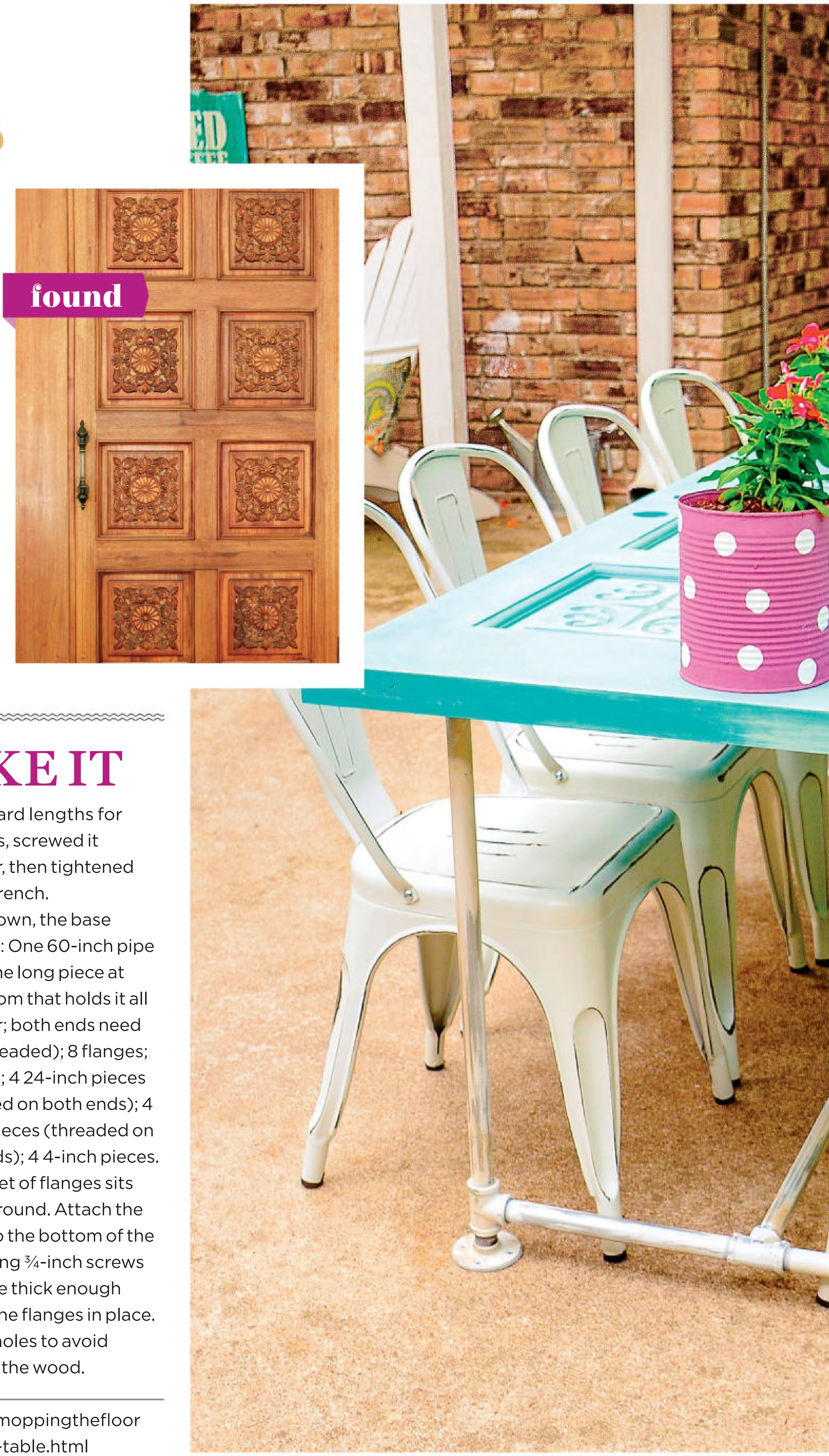


finished!

Never skip the prep steps. They pay off in a polished look at the end.

THE DOOR THAT BECAME A TABLE

When Kristi Dominguez of IShouldBeMoppingTheFloor.com received an old door from a friend, she envisioned a party table for her patio. Her husband configured plumbing conduit as a base for the weathered-look surface, which seats six. "Initially, we went with the plumbing pipe base because it was the simplest solution with minimal construction," she says. "Now I love how it looks and can't imagine this table without the pipe." Plates happen to fit neatly inside the carved decorative squares.



HOW TO MAKE IT

① For the table: Rub a wax puck over the door surface. This creates a light barrier so the paint doesn't completely adhere to the wood, making it easier to sand off later.

② Brush on two coats of Waverly Inspirations Chalk paint in Agave. Let dry.

③ Hand-sand for a weathered look.

④ Brush on Waverly Inspirations Wax in White for a white-washed look. Wipe off any excess with a soft cloth. Let dry.

⑤ Use a marine-grade sealer to protect against the elements.

⑥ For the base: Dominguez used ¾-inch plumbing pipe, in standard lengths for all pieces, screwed it together, then tightened with a wrench.

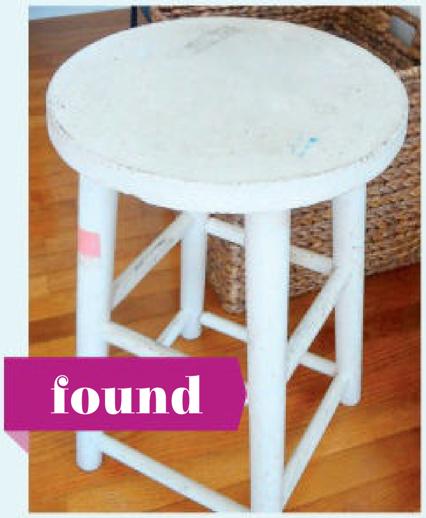
⑦ As shown, the base required: One 60-inch pipe (this is the long piece at the bottom that holds it all together; both ends need to be threaded); 8 flanges; 6 T parts; 4 24-inch pieces (threaded on both ends); 4 8-inch pieces (threaded on both ends); 4 4-inch pieces.

⑧ One set of flanges sits on the ground. Attach the others to the bottom of the table using ¾-inch screws that were thick enough to hold the flanges in place. Predrill holes to avoid splitting the wood.

Get all the project details ishouldbemoppingthefloor.com/2017/05/old-door-patio-table.html

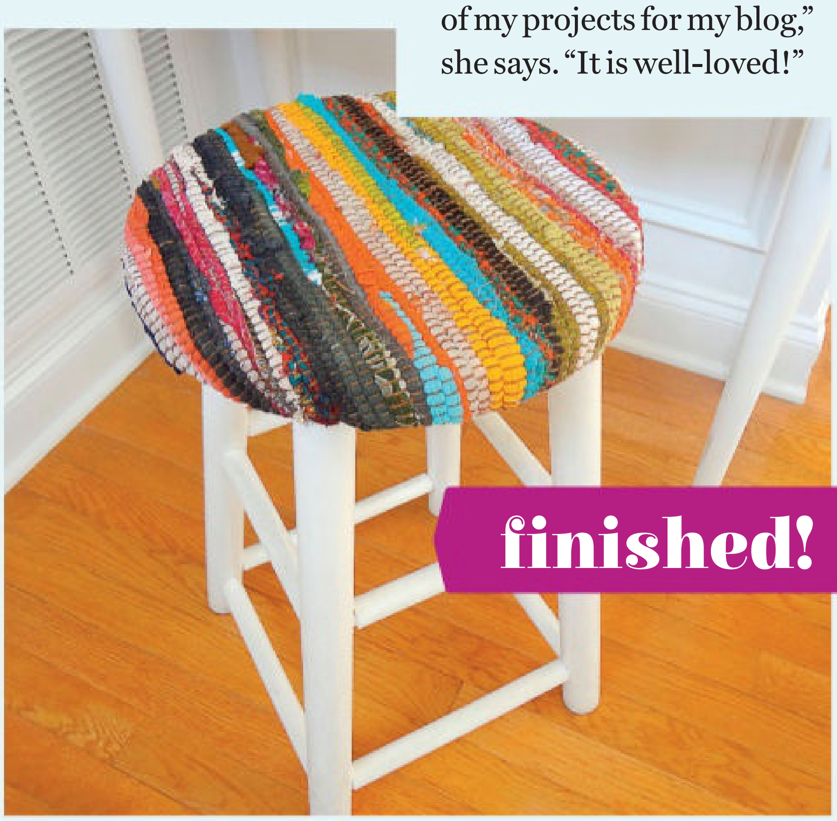
finished!

Recycle That Rug, Then Take a Seat



found

When Kim Pruvis of MadeInADay.com found this old stool for $1.99, "it sat around my house, looking sad, waiting its turn in the chalk-paint line." Until she was inspired by a neat stool in a retail store and grabbed a spare kitchen rug. "I use it in my office/craft room and stand on it to get above-camera shots of my projects for my blog," she says. "It is well-loved!"



finished!

HOW TO MAKE IT

❶ Clean stool with household cleaner and a scrubbing sponge.

❷ Paint if desired and let dry. (Pruvis left it as is for a shabby look.)

❸ Turn the stool upside down and choose the area of the rug to use for the seat.

❹ Pull and stretch the rug around the stool as you staple. Pruvis used a pneumatic air-compressed staple gun with large long staples; she suggests nail heads or finishing tacks and a hammer as an alternative.

❺ Trim the rug off as close as possible to the staples or nail heads.

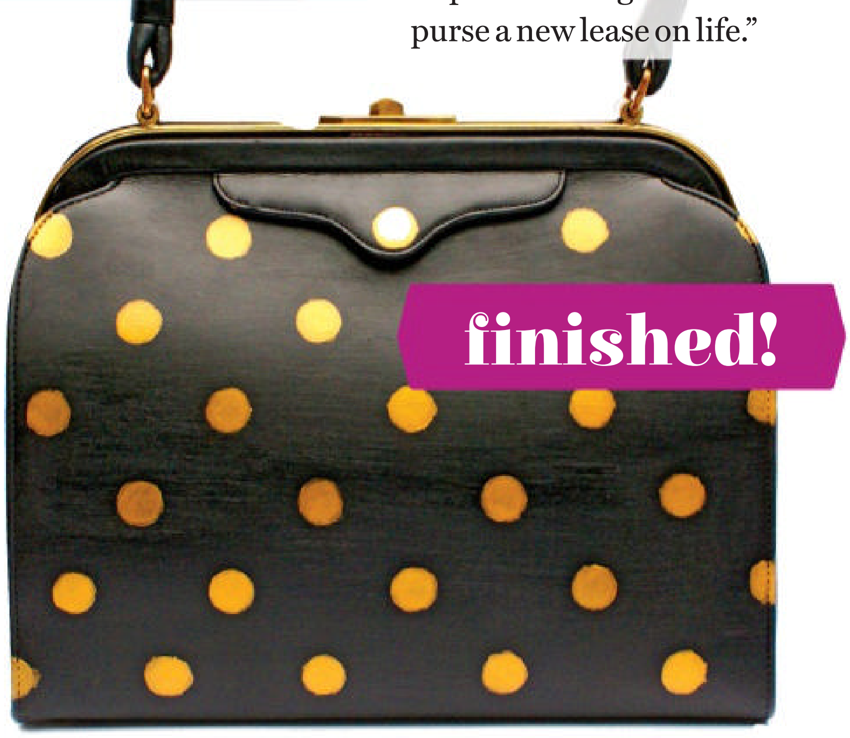
❻ Use a hot-glue gun to adhere the rough edges of the rug to the stool so they will not unravel.

Get all the project details

madeinaday.com/recycled-fabric-stool-pier-1-knockoff

EVERYONE LOVES A POLKA-DOT PURSE

Lauren Lanker of ThinkingCloset.com inherited this vintage black purse when a beloved family friend passed away. "I can't remember a holiday meal during my childhood when Ruth wasn't at our table, warming us with her smiling eyes and clever quips," she says of the purse's vibrant original owner. But the purse was showing its age in scuffs and cracks. "I knew Ruth would be proud I had given her purse a new lease on life."



HOW TO MAKE IT

❶ Stuff the purse with rags. Lightly rub the surface with fine grit sandpaper (220) to remove the shiny treatment on the leather and allow the upcoming dye to soak into the leather.

❷ Clean off dust from sanding with a damp cloth.

❸ Wearing rubber gloves, use a foam brush to apply thin coats of Eco-Flo All-in-One (black dye and finish), applying light pressure to the brush as you go.

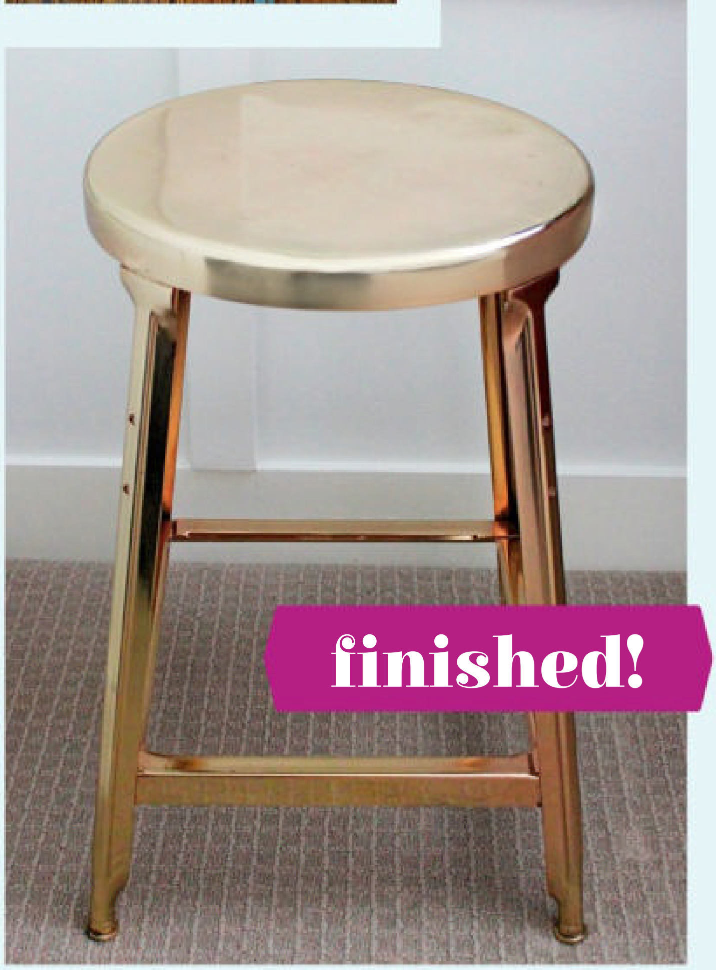
❹ Create a stencil for your pattern. (Lanker used a Silhouette Cameo electronic cutting tool.) Secure stencil to purse with rubber band.

❺ Use FolkArt Metallic Acrylic paint by Plaid, in Gold, to paint dots through stencil. Keep stencil pressed flat; use multiple thin coats.

❻ Clean up any stray strokes with a little black dye on a tiny brush to disguise them.

Get all the project details thinkingcloset.com/purse

The Most Glamorous Stool in the World

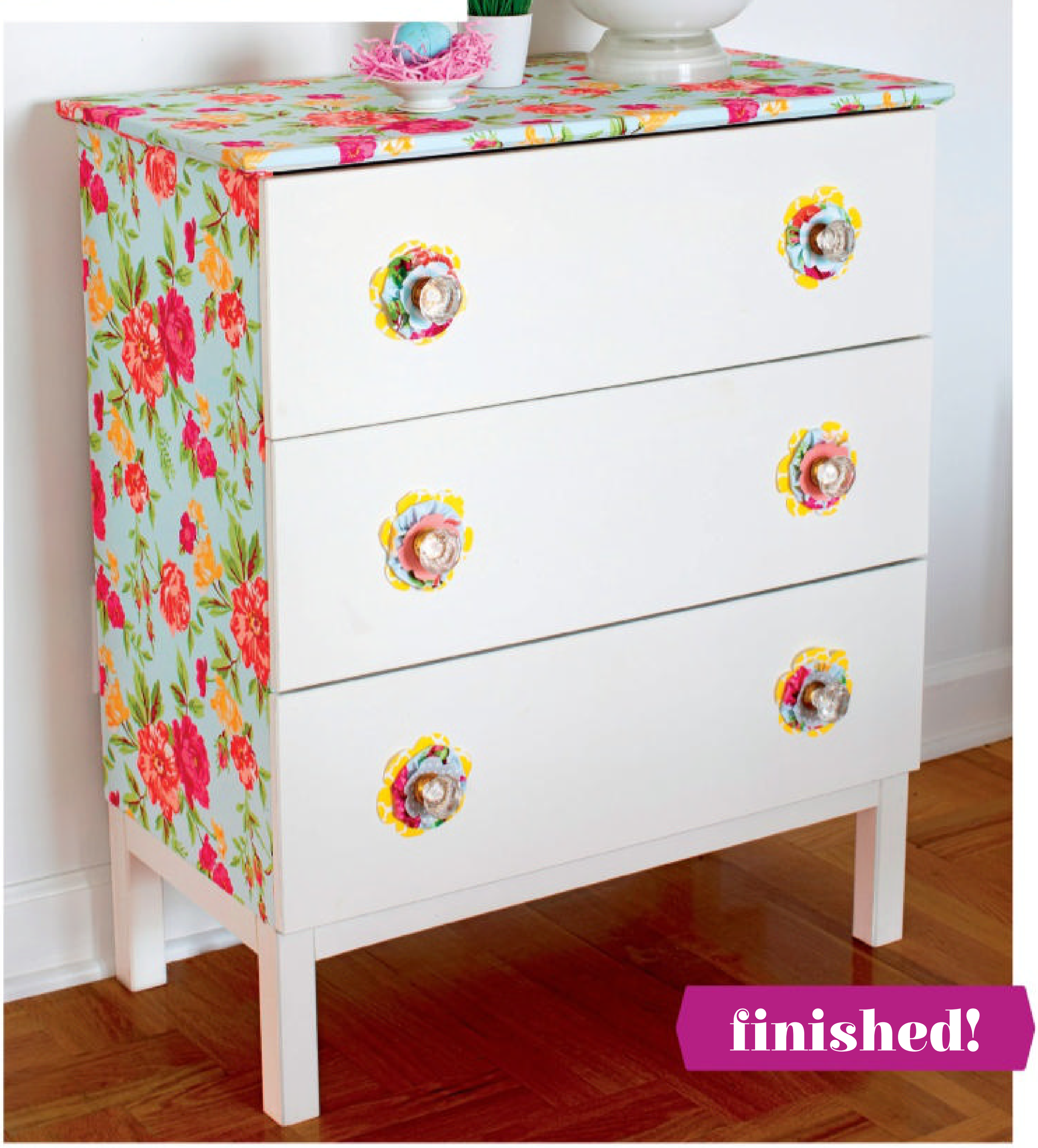


This one is more of a hack than a DIY. (Sometimes you have to know when to hand it over to the pros.) Michelle Hinckley of 4Men1Lady.com picked up this stool at a consignment shop for $15, then left it outside, where it rusted. She feared it was ruined, but her dad suggested having it brass-plated. "They take a metal piece, remove all the corrosion they can, then apply the finish through several more steps," she explains. Other finish options include chrome, gold and nickel. (Bids in the Salt Lake Area ranged from $70 to $200). "I had considered spray-painting it, but you just can't get that bright, mirror finish with spray paint!"

Get all the project details
4men1lady.com/brass-plated-stool

CHEAP & CHEERFUL, IN FLOWERS AND FABRIC

When even the most experienced DIYers are stumped, they often head to the In My Own Style blog. There, Diane Henkler shares tips and tricks for projects of every scope and scale. In reimagining a plain white dresser, she chose a budget-friendly technique that can be used without damaging your furniture. It starts with floral fabric and liquid starch, yet no sewing or ironing is required. Henkler suggests trying it on kitchen cabinets, inside drawers and on window panes or walls.



HOW TO MAKE IT

❶ Place a drop cloth.

❷ Lay fabric over top of dresser and tape it to the sides. Cut close to the size of the piece, leaving a little extra for shrinkage. (It does not have to be cut straight or to size. You will cut it later, once fabric has dried on.)

❸ Pour a few cups of liquid starch in a bucket. Place fabric inside and swish it around to saturate.

❹ Pull fabric out and remove some of the starch by running your fingers over it. Place wet fabric over surface. Smooth with a plastic spatula, keeping the pattern straight and removing air bubbles and wrinkles. Let dry.

❺ Wrap fabric around furniture corners and edges and use a small-tipped paint brush to ensure there is enough starch under and over fabric to hold it in place. Let dry.

❻ Cut excess fabric from corners. Use paintbrush with starch over cut sections to make sure they are glued down. Let dry.

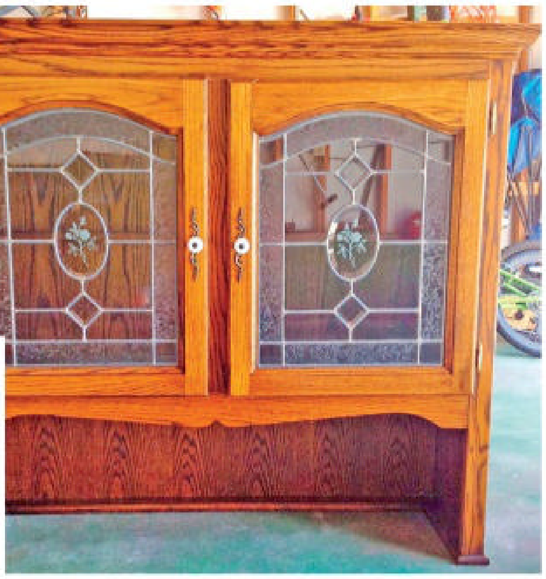
❼ Use a craft knife with sharp blade to cut excess fabric wrapped around edges. Hold excess in one hand and use knife to cut in the other. Cut away excess fabric along bottom edges. Follow grooves or use a straight edge or ruler to make a straight cut.

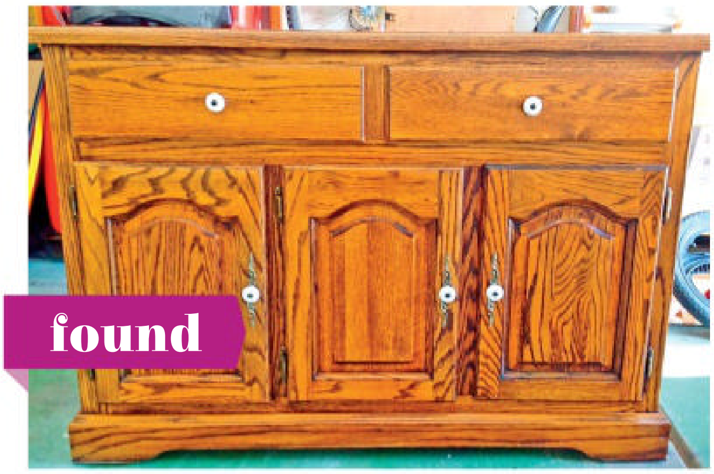
❽ For the knobs: See website post for Henkler's three-dimensional flower-knob treatment.

Get all the project details inmyownstyle.com/2017/03/furniture-makeover-using-fabric-and-liquid-starch.html

A DATED HUTCH GOES FULLY FARMHOUSE

Mimi Crisenberry is a master bargain hunter and furniture-flip guru. The DIY projects on her website, MimiBerryCreations.com, go on for pages. Inspired by *Fixer Upper* style, this oak hutch is a reader favorite for its farmhouse flair and dramatic transformation. The secret to painting this large piece with ease? Chalk paint in your paint sprayer. "I will never hand-paint chalk paint onto anything ever again!" she laughs.





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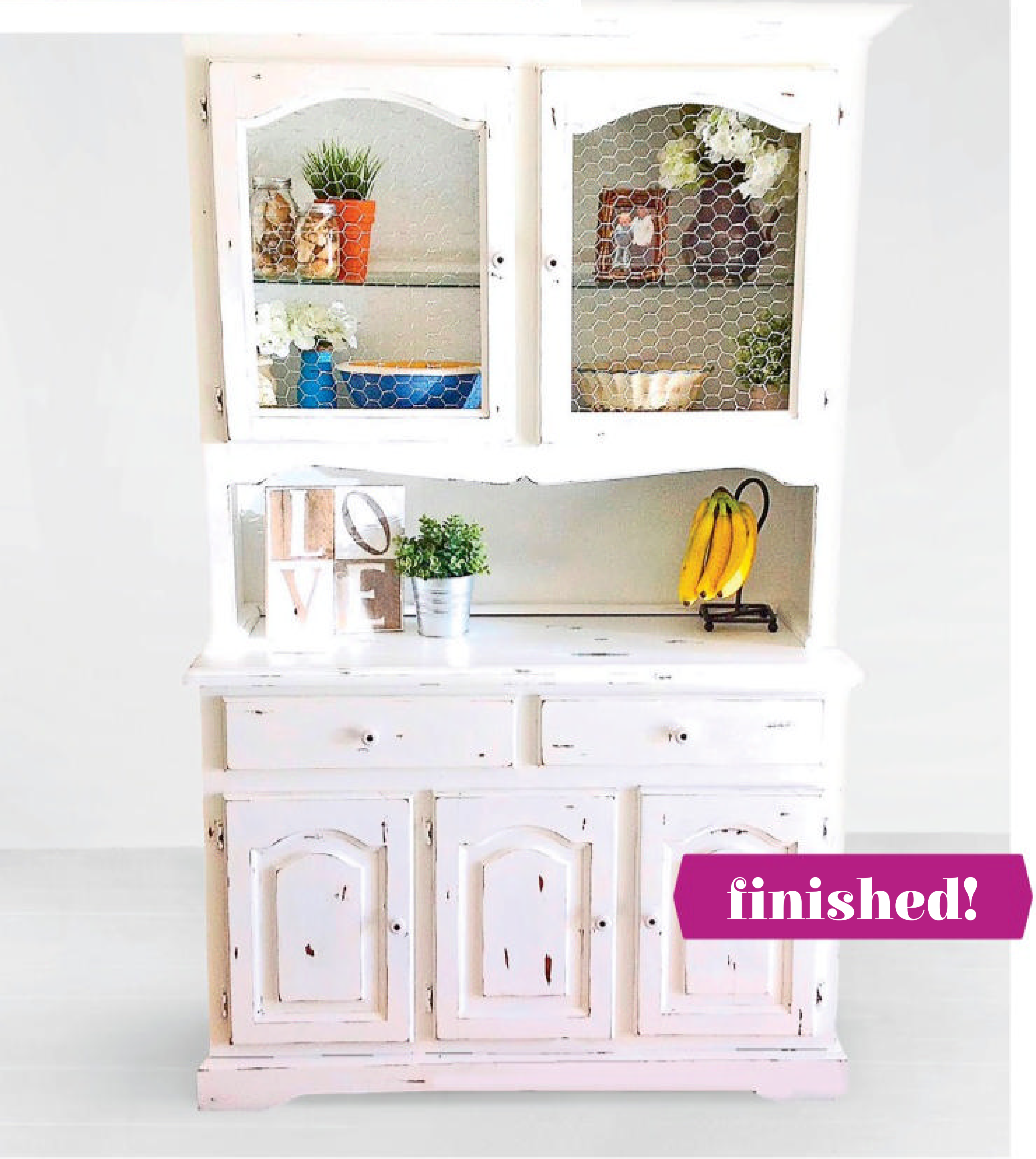


finished!

HOW TO MAKE IT

❶ Remove stained glass windows and hardware.

❷ Lightly sand and wipe down top and bottom pieces of hutch.

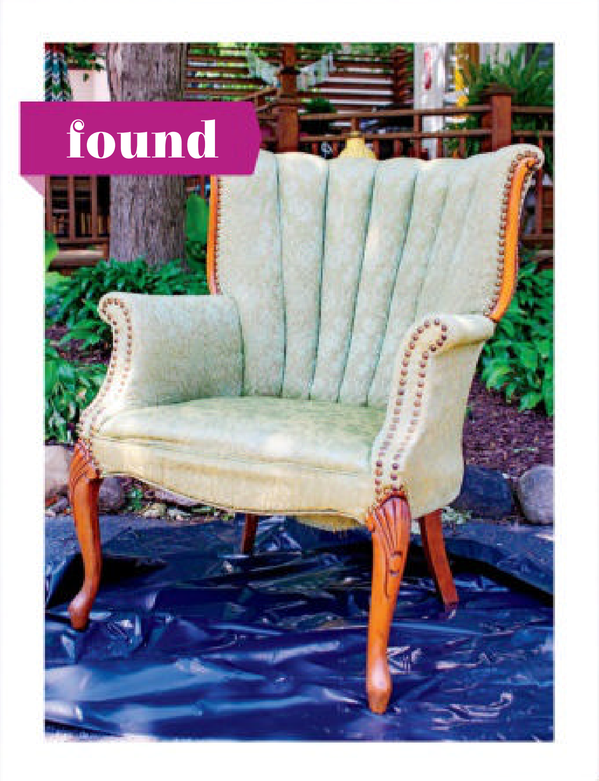
❸ Use painter's tape inside drawer faces to prevent paint from being sprayed in.

❹ For the look of Benjamin Moore Pure White, Crisenberry had Home Depot make it using Glidden and asked for contractor paint (without the built-in primer) in eggshell finish. She then mixed a DIY chalk-paint recipe into the latex paint and painted the hutch with a paint sprayer.

❺ Wax full piece with Annie Sloan soft wax. Sand down any areas you want to look distressed using 100–150 grit. Wax over distressed areas. Buff the wax with a palm sander.

❻ Use a staple gun to attach pieces of chicken wire to the back of the cupboard doors; replace hardware.

Get all the project details mimiberrycreations.com/2015/04/fixer-upper-inspired-farmhouse-hutch.html



Yes, It's Okay to Paint Upholstery

Kristy Robb of RobbRestyle.com fell for this chair the moment she spotted it in a local thrift shop. "I loved the seashell-like shape of the back. But the fabric was a faded pea-green brocade, and I knew this kind of reupholstery was beyond my skill set." Given her penchant for painting—and the craze for DIY fabric painting—she decided to take a risk with this no-fuss method. "The key to painting upholstery is to choose a low-nap fabric," she says. "I wanted this project to be effortless, so I didn't remove the nail heads. I simply painted over them generously and wiped away the excess paint with a damp cloth. I love that this paint finish has a little sheen to it once dry. It looks elegant and finished. And I didn't have to do any extra prepping or adjust the paint with fabric medium or water. I just painted it on!"

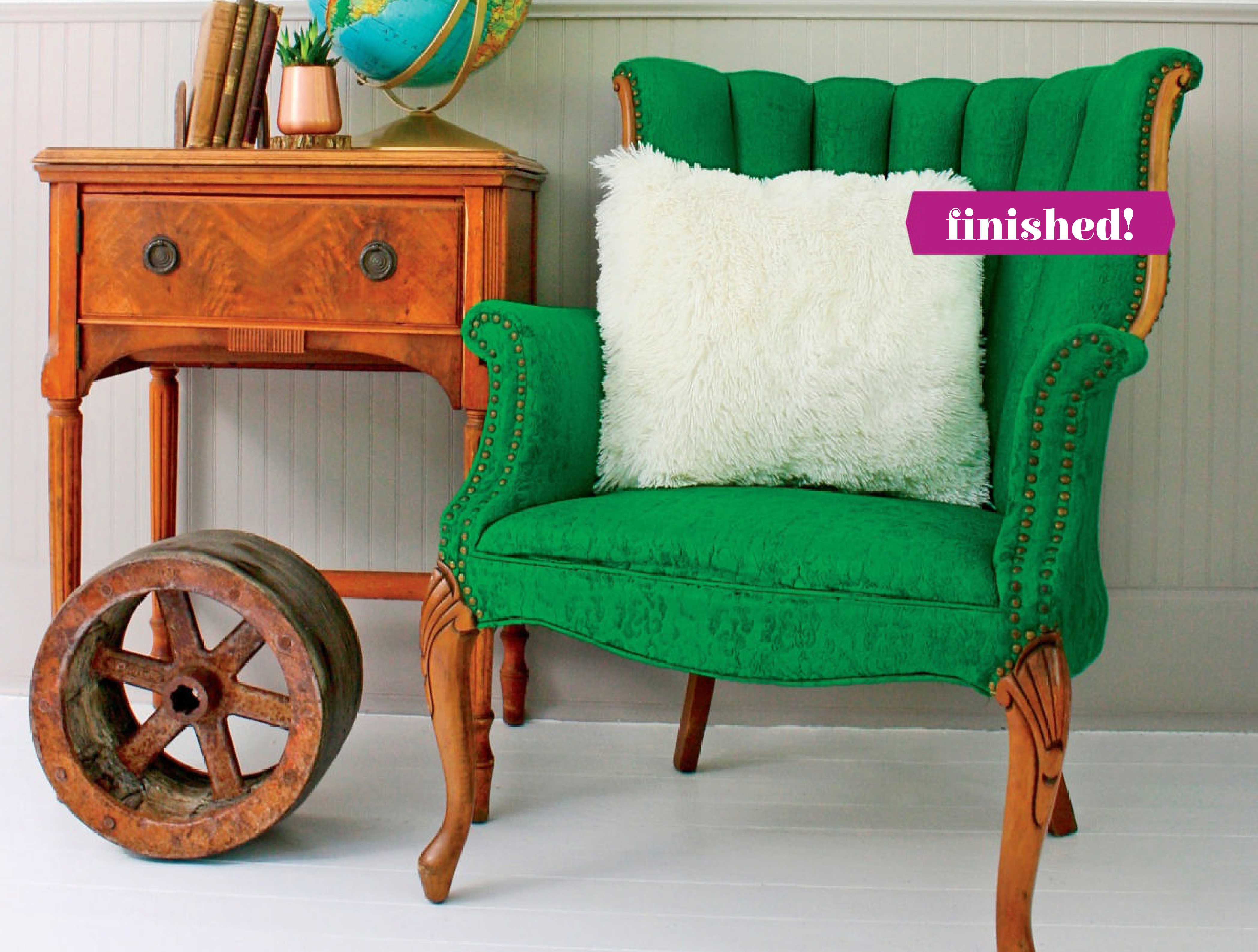
HOW TO MAKE IT

❶ Bring the furniture outdoors for the best ventilation.

❷ Using a brush, apply Velvet Finishes by Kellie Smith paint in Baroque in two coats, pressing the brush to get into the grooves of the fabric.

❸ When completely dry, apply a very light-grit sandpaper across the surface to achieve a smooth, leatherlike finish.

Get all the project details
robbrestyle.com/no-fuss-diy-chair-paint

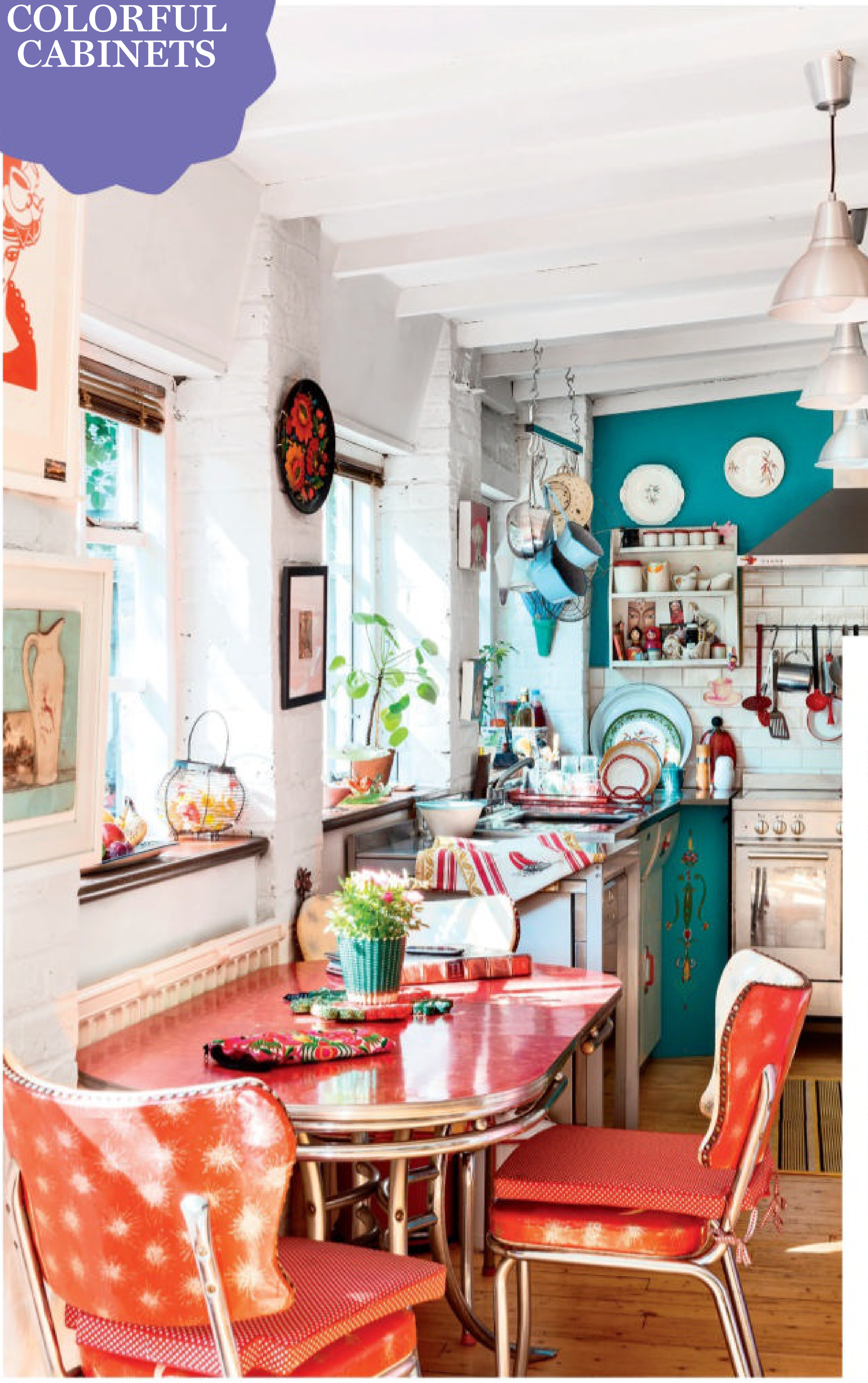


these kitchens cook

It takes just one hot element to whip together a vintage-inspired kitchen.

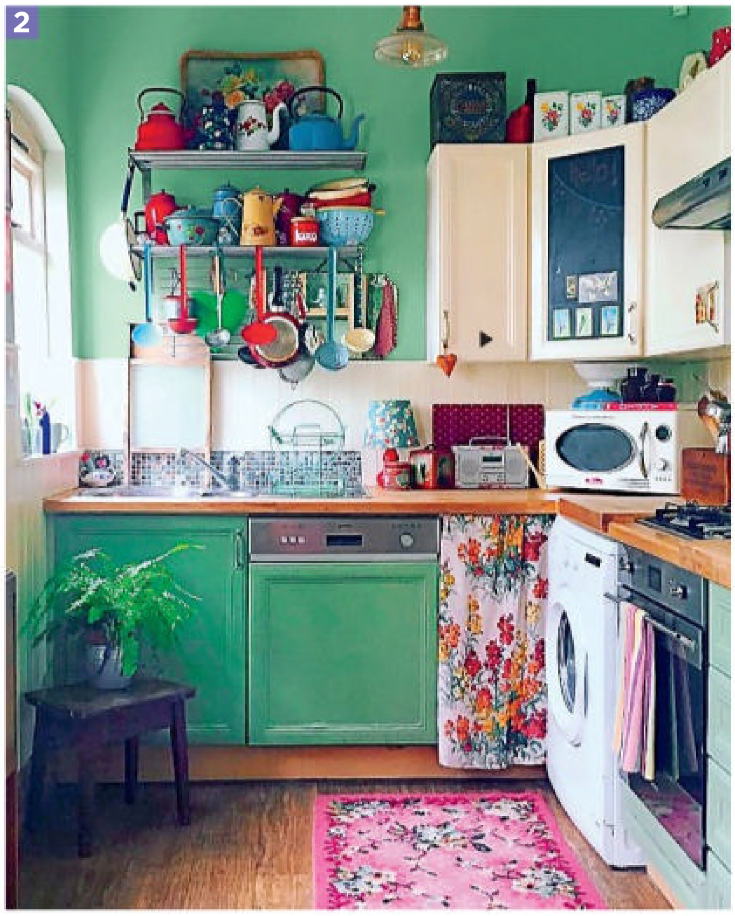
COLORFUL CABINETS

1



1 Contrast color on the cabinets and walls with a bright dinette set. Formica came into fame with the cheery tables of the 1950s. Flaunting curvy chrome legs, the durable sets remain affordable. **2** Her way with color and kitsch has made the U.K.'s Lisa Piddington into an obsession for her 35,000 Instagram followers. Known as @lisa_loves_vintage, she styles this ever-changing room with three colors of cabinetry. **3** Painting cabinet doors while leaving the frame neutral adds a clean pop. An easy-wipe wallpaper, contact paper or wall decals can add color and pattern to an ordinary cooking space.

2



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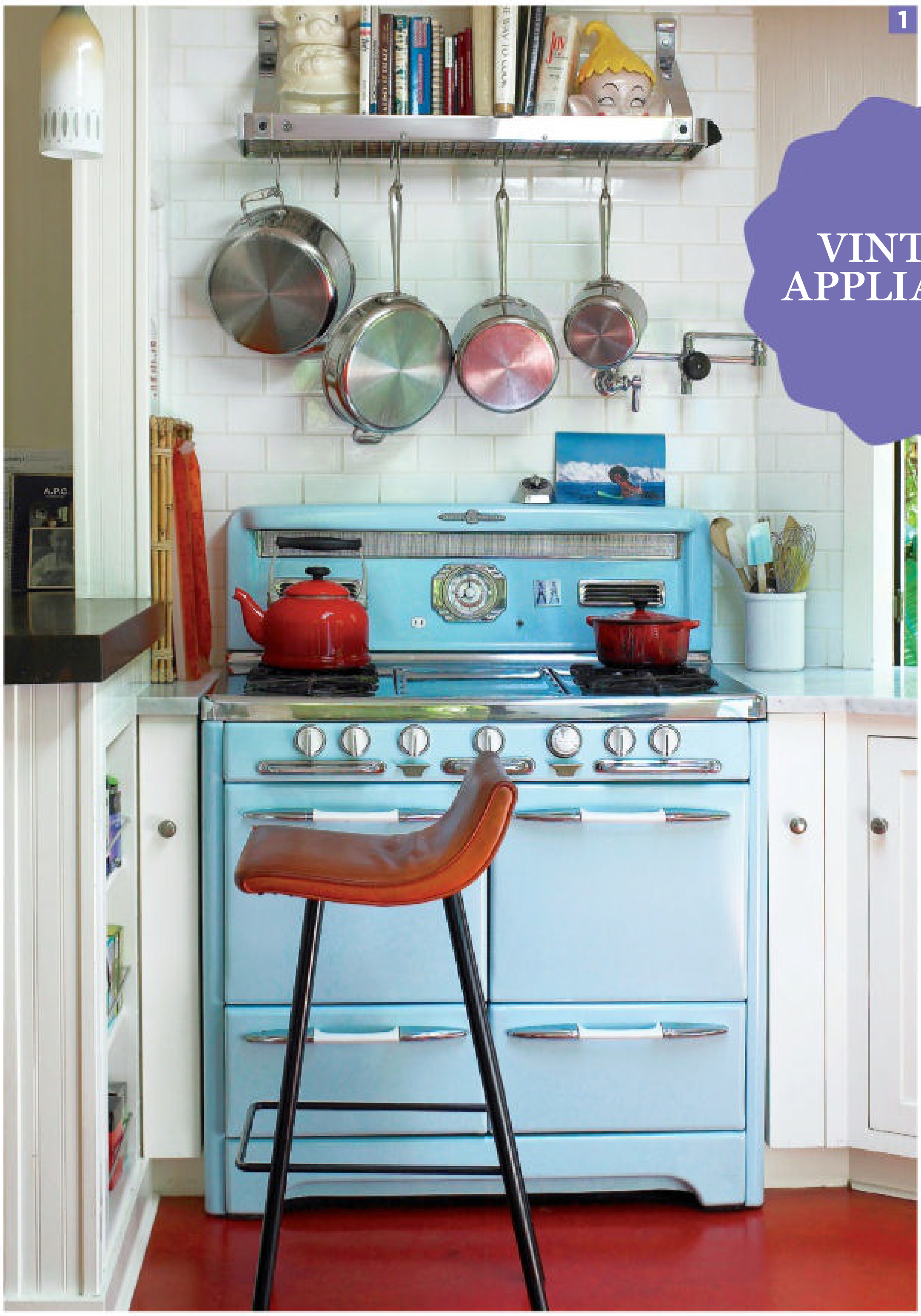

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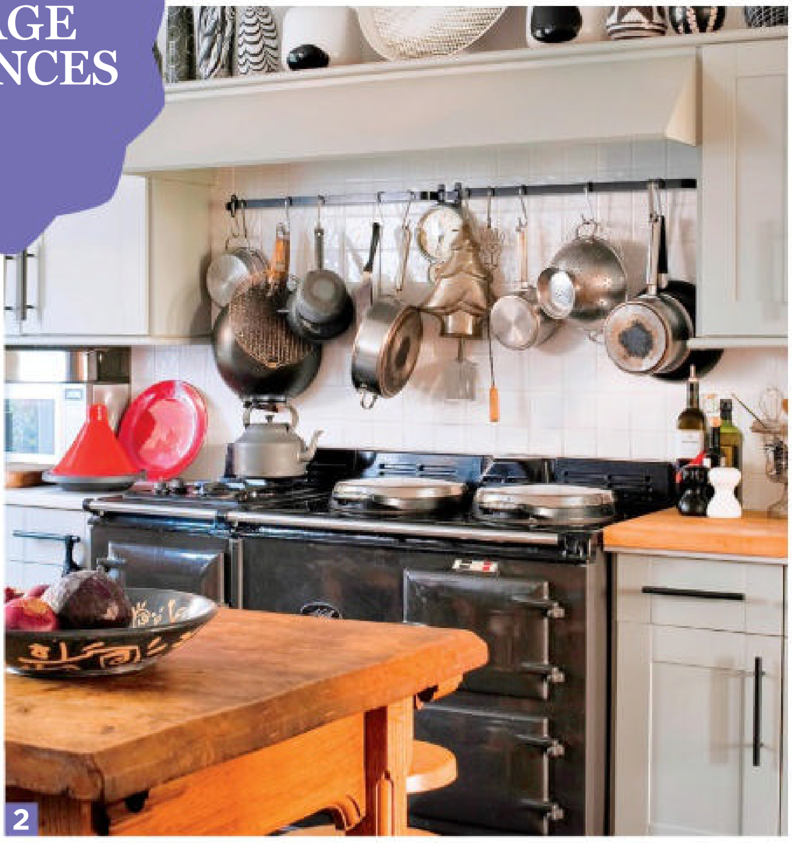
VINTAGE APPLIANCES



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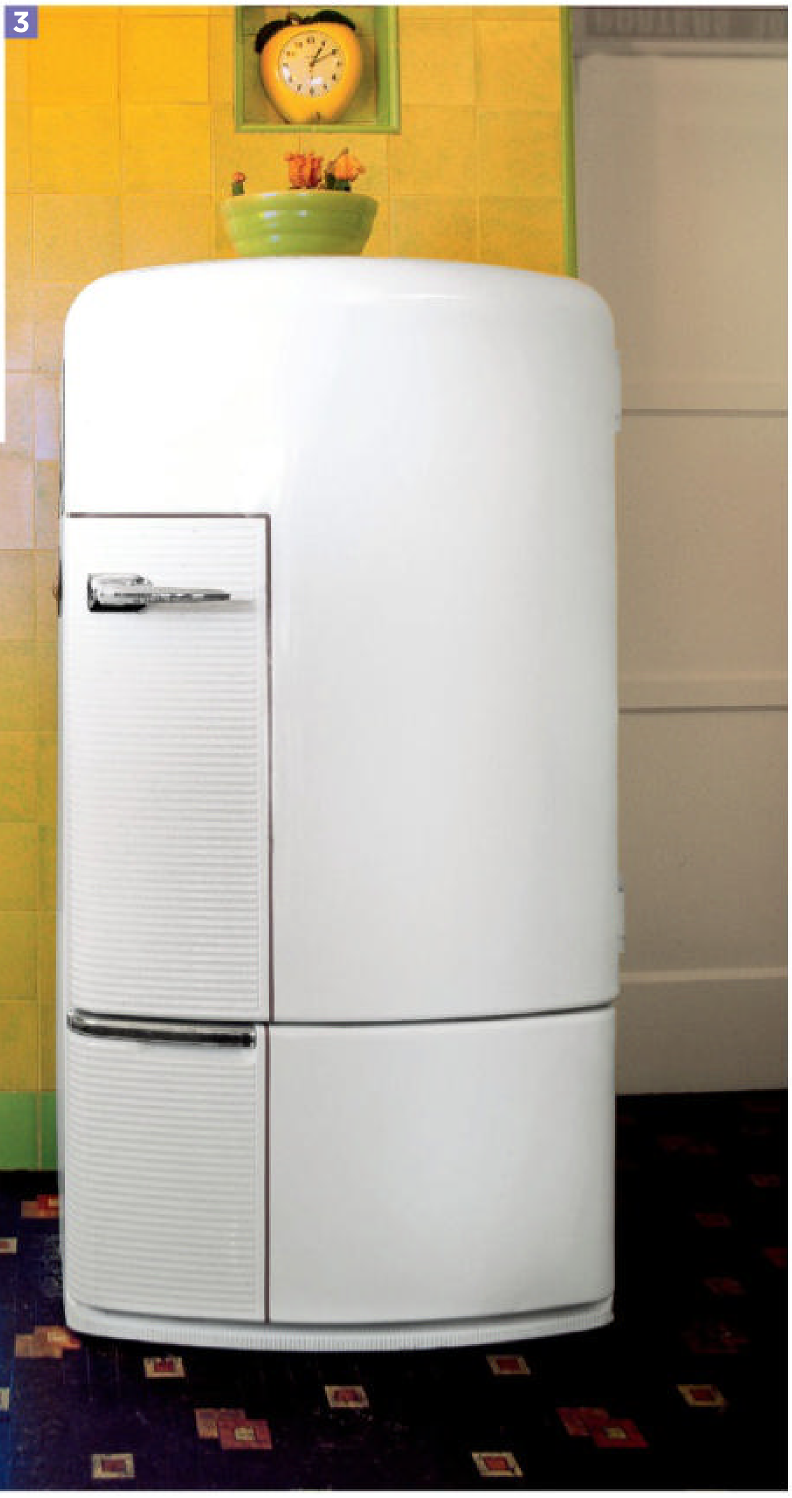
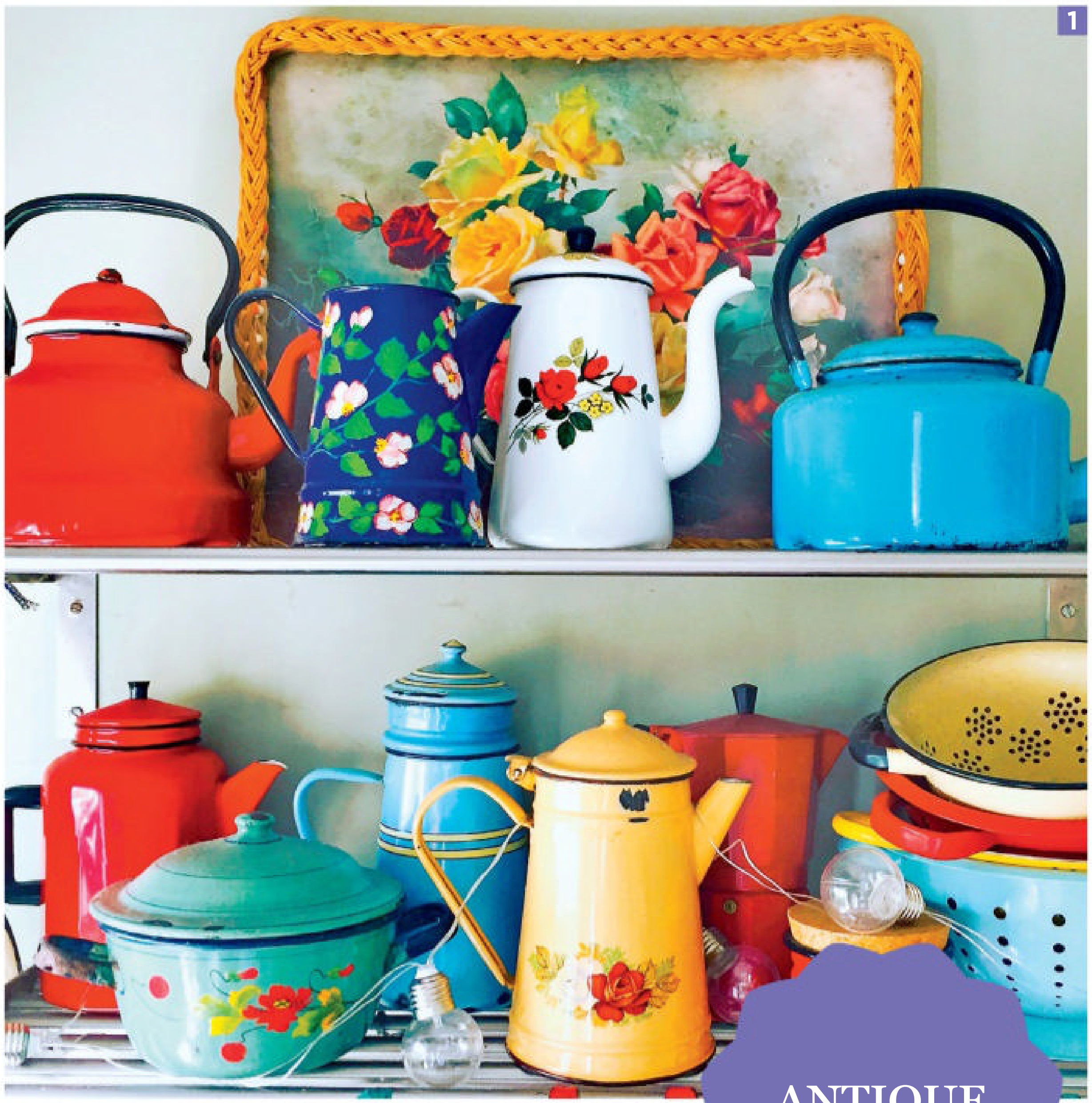


3

Stunning vintage appliances restored to safe working order are not the cheapest way to make a truly delicious impact in the kitchen. The same can be said for their dashing new counterparts with a retro look. Even so, they can justify their price in years of compliments, especially in an open kitchen, where they will turn more heads. **1** This sky-blue stove is fit for a feast, thanks to four front doors. **2** It takes guts and confidence to choose a jet-black appliance. In the right space, however, a chef-size black range like this is pure class. **3** A nostalgic bottom-freezer refrigerator brings back memories for many. It's no wonder companies such as Big Chill and Elmira Stove Works manufacture modern replicas in an array of colors and sizes.

ANTIQUE COLLECTIONS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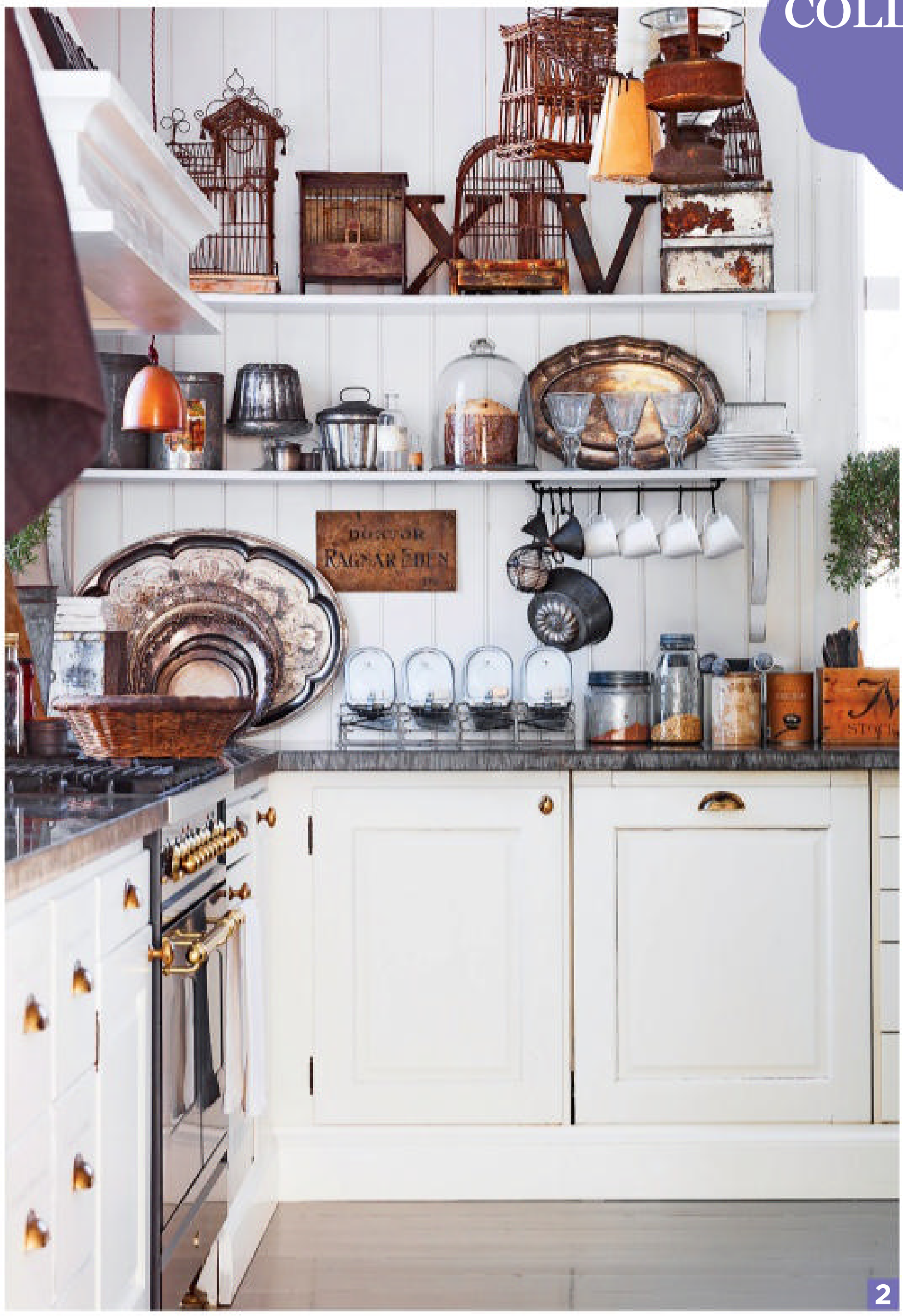
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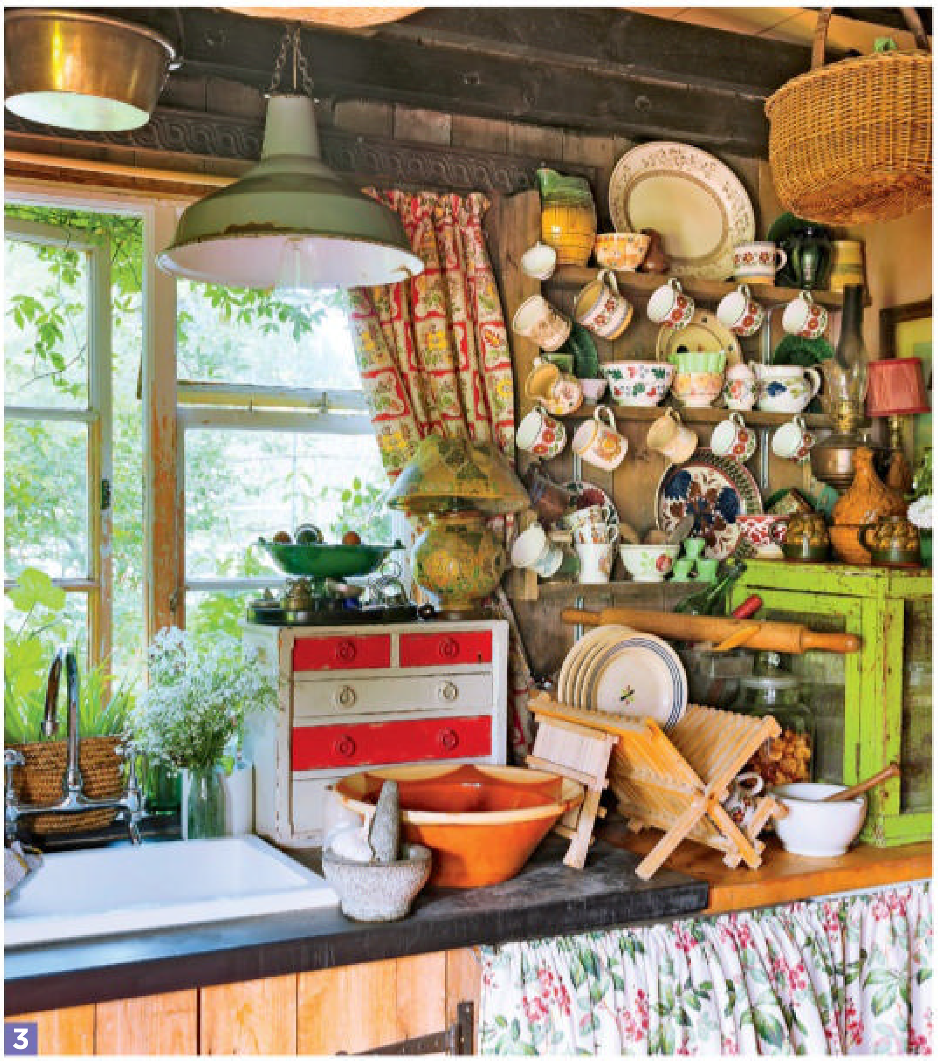
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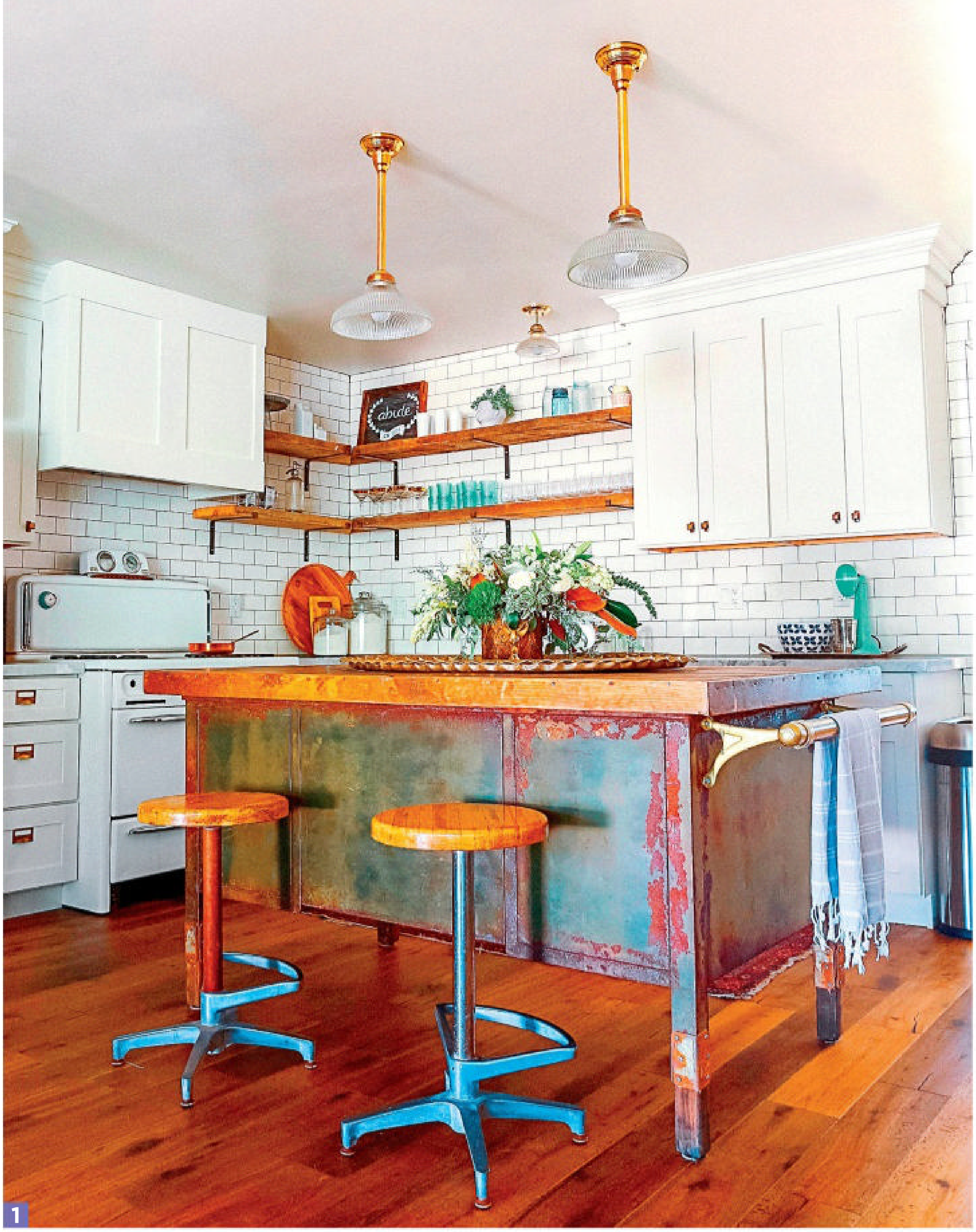
1 Colorful displays of vintage enamelware, from teapots to colanders, rotate on Lisa Piddington's kitchen shelves. Her other colorful rooms feature equally charming vintage collectibles. See them all on Instagram: @lisa_loves_vintage.
2 To keep collections eye-catching but orderly, commit to a neutral backdrop. Group items by color and material (we like the propped up stack of silver trays) and give them room to breathe.
3 Some cooks prefer a kitchen where it's the more, the merrier. In this happily jumbled space, a basket and dried flowers dangle from the ceiling, and tea cups for every neighbor—and then some—hang close at hand. Not an inch to spare on the counter might make meal prep challenging, but it only feels like home if it feels like you. ▸

RECLAIMED ISLANDS

1 Coley Arnold, cocreator of Junk in the Trunk Vintage Market, cooked up this family-farmhouse-meets-industrial-edge kitchen. Stools with footrests make the island more user-friendly. **2** An island doubles as a dining table. Mismatched chairs add character and are easy on the pocketbook when thrifted over time. **3** This crisp, tailored French farmhouse is the vision of Denise O'Donnell of @TheModestFarmhouse on Instagram. Her home's black-and-white scheme starts here. "Kitchens are where families gather and memories are made every day. I wanted our kitchen to feel comfortable and welcoming to everyone who enters," she says. She found the rustic island at Belle Patri, a shop in Jarrettsville, Md. ■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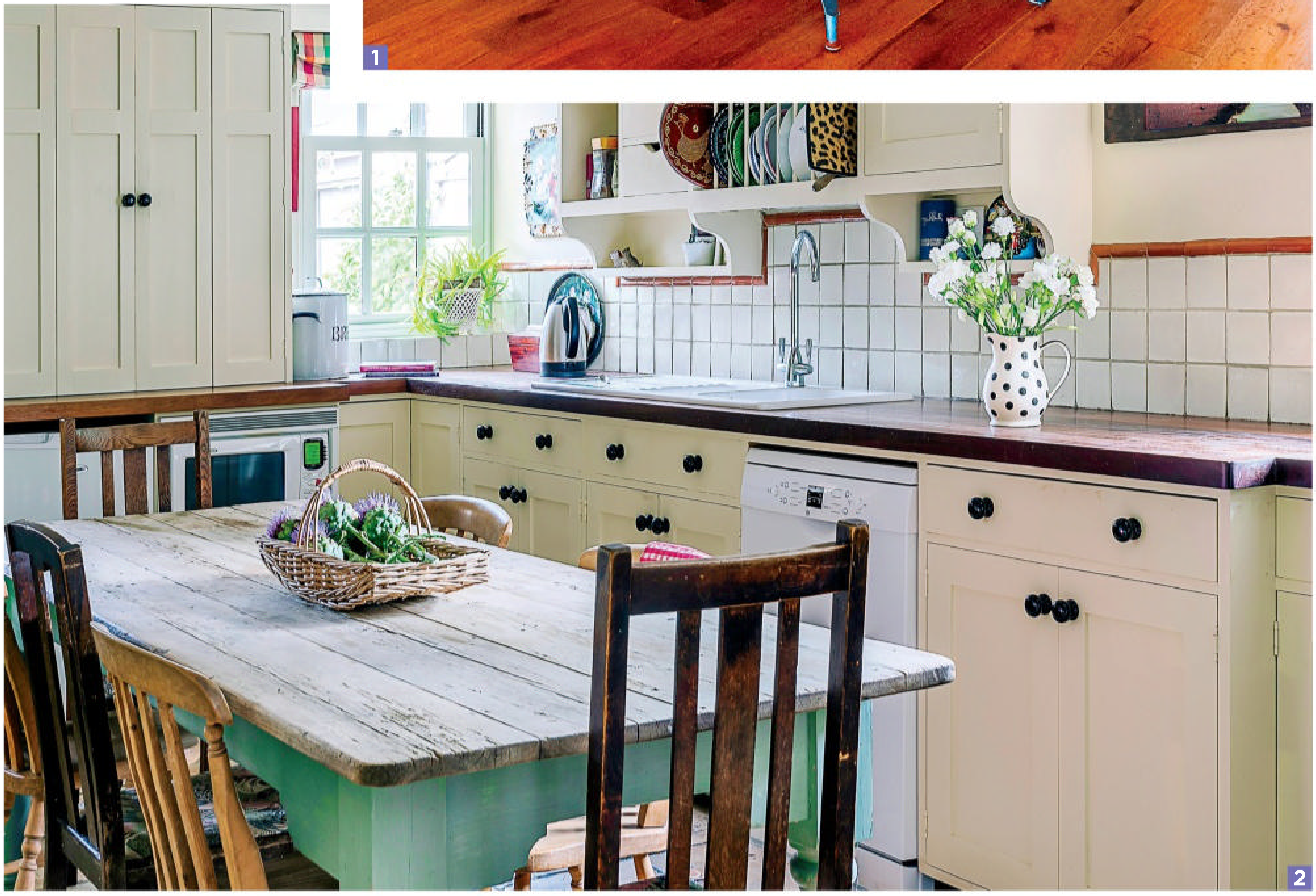
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3

MAGNOLIA
WACO·TX
EST·2003

wild blue yonder

With an undercurrent of excitement and a readiness to roam, let 2023 be a year of bold new (decorating) adventures.

Wake up, sleepy rooms! At last, 2023 feels like a year to reenergize our health and wellness, our passions and our spaces. Enough of holing up, staying calm, keeping quiet and laying low. Let's live it up and renew our joie de vivre. We're here for a fresh burst of bright ideas that express a zeal for extreme vitality and boundless exploration. Positivity is right on trend, as invigorating your home always boosts your outlook. Our buoyant cover look gathers market finds that span a range of eras and circle the globe. Even those who turn a deaf ear to trends are going to want to listen up! Here's what we're seeing for 2023.

1 **An Attention-Getting Blue—Or Any Vivid Hue** This upbeat shade walks the line between catching-a-wave calm and wildly electric. Keep the eye guessing with a few accessories in the same color family (note: the antlers and the candles), then temper the thrill of your new walls with some warm-toned neutrals and aged metallics.

2 **Boring Floors Be Gone** A foundational pattern—from a subdued Moroccan rug to an ornate antique tapestry to a soft and durable wool rug—continues to be an unexpected starting point, interesting finishing touch or the fastest way to change up a room. (Yes, even faster than paint!) Many vintage rugs promise quality and durability. Plus, patterns give the room a boost of energy and movement, while masking stains and wear.

3 **A Typography Resurgence** More than 800 years ago, the introduction of the printing press automated book publishing to disseminate information in record time. Fast forward and the simplicity of our typeset alphabet has nostalgic allure. This carved console celebrates the shape of familiar letters on a substantial scale.

4 **Libations Gathering 'Round** Bring out the good stuff! Better yet, display a few choice bottles to spark an everyday celebration. A vintage bar on wheels can park itself wherever the party is, alternatively stocked with ingredients for a few favorite cocktails and mocktails, let's-feel-fancy coffee drinks or a set of mood-elevating and delicious teas.

5 **Evolution Decorating** Patience, they say, is a virtue. Never more so than when transforming your interiors. Many designers require a year or two to complete a project, and they're professionals! Give yourself time to experiment, swap pieces around and shop your favorite haunts while the composition evolves organically. Mingle heirlooms, vintage goodies, secondhand gems and new pieces with abandon along the way. "Slow decorating," like slow food, yields a richer result.

6 **A Little Order Is In Order** Curated clutter can be downright cozy. Surrounded by our collections, we feel connected to our abode. Even so, eclectic rooms need a grounding element to restore their balance. Tick this box with symmetry, tidy patterns (like stripes, checks or plaids) or, in this case, a paneled accent wall. Also known as "board and batten," this oversize DIY grid establishes a visual resting place, allowing the rest of the room to run free.

7 **Exotic Adventures** Whether you're a modern-day Indiana Jones or a world traveler in training, your home base can inspire your map to the future as a global expedition for the eyes. By land, air and sea is the secret theme of this room, where a bird lamp and octopus candelabra convene with earthy natural materials and textures like wood and leaves. Globes plot the course and lanterns illuminate the path ahead in a scheme that invites new souvenirs to join the mix.

8 **Sentimental Journeys Are Even Better** Do you spy the box of letters? Inside, we picture endearing notes, cards and photographs, all placed within reach to cherish often. Somehow, our basements and attics tend to become the dusty destinations of our most revered mementos. Let those meaningful objects you've coddled in tissue paper and bubble wrap breathe an air of personal history into the next year.

LETTERS
QR
YZ

1100

STEP INSIDE

Wake up each morning in a place that feels like home.

ROOM TO GROW

Ancestral land was the perfect spot for a loving dad to design this new farmhouse, graciously constructed by family and friends.

Photography by **Jessica Wasserman**

Building a home from the ground up was not the original intention of Jessica Wasserman and her husband, Tyler. But it became an ideal solution filled with hard work and heartfelt memories as their loved ones pitched in to help. Married and ready to start a family, the couple had no luck tracking down the perfect abode. So Wasserman's father, retired architect Ken Schafer, suggested they start with a blank slate—and a gorgeous custom farmhouse he offered to design.

Set on family land in Wasserman's hometown, the sprawling house includes a walkout basement, a barn and a pond, all on the property. "The fact that he designed our home makes it very near and dear to our hearts," says Wasserman. "We live in a small, quaint, country town in northern Ohio, with a population around 1,300. And we're surrounded by the things that make childhood magical: a meandering creek, woods and wilderness, farms, fields and country life."

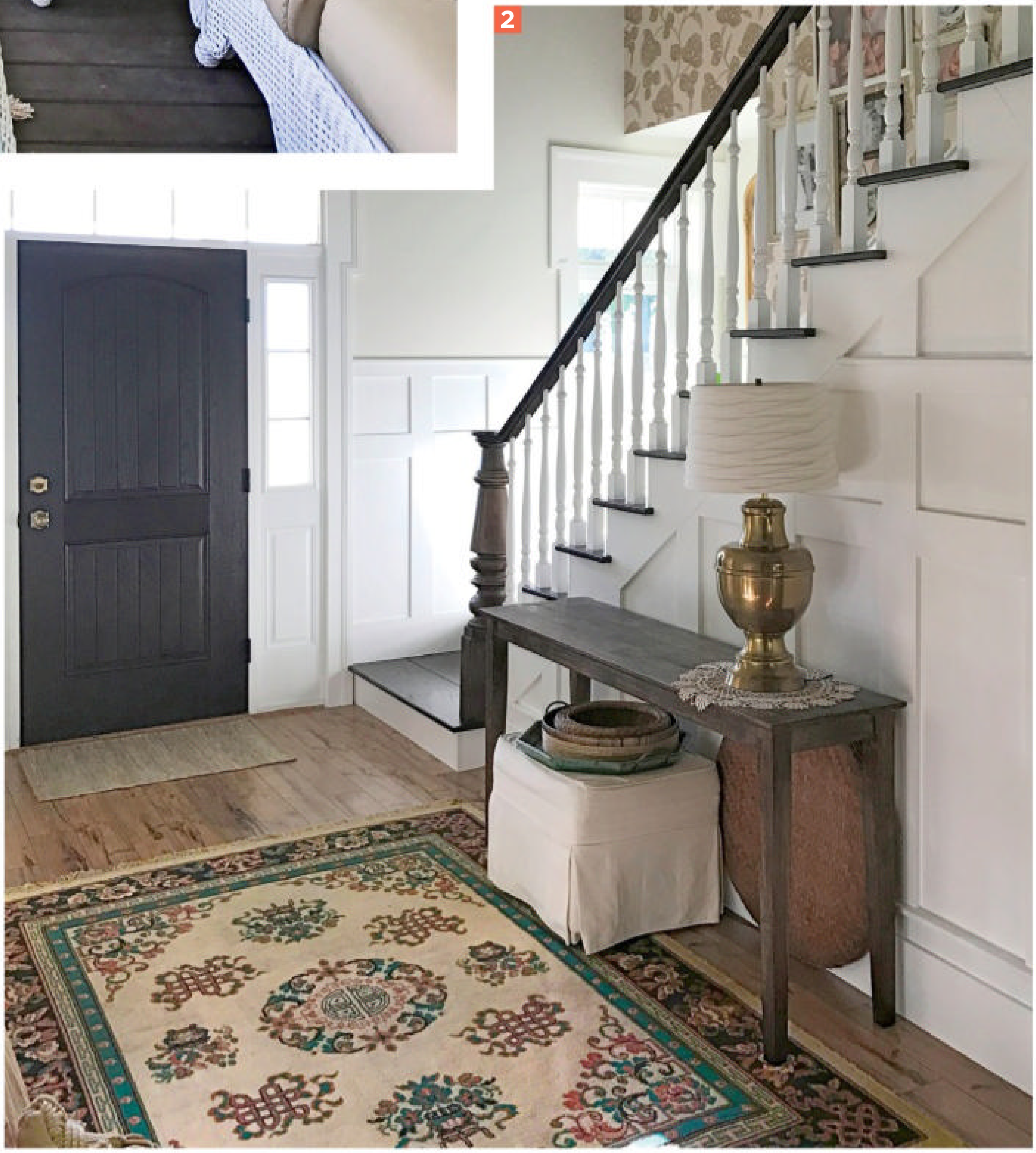
After breaking ground in April 2014, the home was ready in June 2015. The one-of-a-kind farmhouse, with a wide front porch, tall windows and three classic dormers across the second floor, is where they now raise their three young children: Reid, Harper and Alfie John.

"Huge rooms felt cold to us, so our biggest obstacle was designing an open-concept interior that felt just right," Wasserman says. "We wanted a home large enough for our growing

HOME SAFE HOME The family's Cavachon puppy, Duffy, keeps watch in the front yard of the new (with an old feel) farmhouse that belongs to his family of five. Wasserman enjoys reimagining the elements and décor on the wide front porch to show a different welcoming face for each changing season.

1

1 Reid and his baby brother, Alfie, make a natural team wherever they go. In warmer months, the back porch (with Duffy) offers plenty of space for boys to be boys.
2 The newel post at the base of the stairs came from the grand staircase of an old home in town. Wasserman had always admired it as a child whenever her family drove by.
3 Reid and Harper cozy up in front of the oak fireplace that was salvaged from a mansion in Cleveland that was about to be demolished. Tyler spent countless hours stripping paint to reveal the beautiful tiger oak underneath.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family but small and cozy enough for us to grow old in."

Once they tweaked and adjusted the plans countless times, they challenged themselves to build a new home using top-of-the-line materials while having it appear old. "Character you find in a farmhouse from the mid-1800s is extremely difficult to re-create!" she says. But the couple took their time, enhancing the new construction with vintage gems, family treasures and antique touches they began collecting even before they broke ground.

"So many pieces are ones we have brought back to life," Wasserman says. "There's truly history in every corner of our home." Her farmhouse-infused style incorporated hints of glam, cottage and boho. Its white foundation is as fresh as bedsheets on the line, with warm wood tones for a traditional feel and accents

> “We wanted a home large enough for our growing family but small and cozy enough to grow old in.”

MARCHE
DES FERMIERS
WILSON'S
CORNED BEEF
PACKED FOR

that evoke the rustic grace of the French countryside.

Beyond the finer points of style that Wasserman has a knack for adding, the hallmark of their home is old-fashioned craftsmanship. “Every baseboard, window and door frame, cabinet and piece of our staircase was hand-built and hand-painted by my husband, me and our family,” Wasserman shares.

Between their daytime work—Tyler is an estimator and project manager for a large local asphalt company, while Wasserman owns a fancifully decorated coffee shop (see page 72) with her sister—the couple dug in and completed their dream.

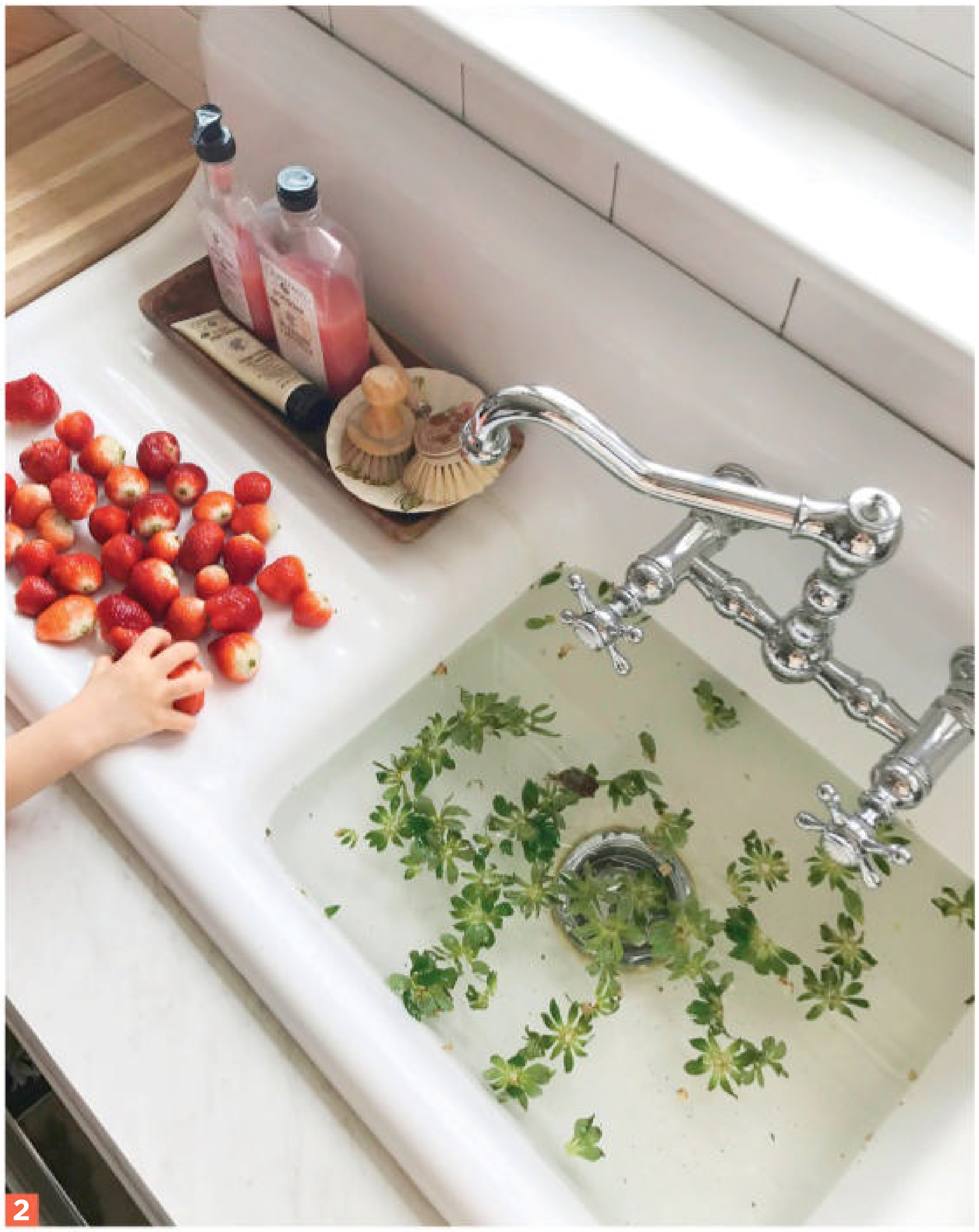
“Our entire home is one huge DIY project!” Wasserman laughs. Family and friends helped stretch the couple’s budget by giving of their time and labor. “We couldn’t have done it

1 The backdrop for the dining room is large-scale tulip wallpaper, layered with a large slate chalkboard that belonged to Wasserman’s grandparents. “The pencil sharpener on the side of the kitchen cabinet was also theirs,” she says. “I have a really big, close family, and we would get together every Sunday evening at their home growing up. I can’t tell you how many games of School my cousins and I played in the basement on this chalkboard and how many pencils we would sharpen with that old-fashioned sharpener. If I sniff really close to the chalkboard frame, it still smells like their basement. It makes my heart so happy that every day I stop and take the time to remember.”
2 “Our table is a very scratched and beat-up farmhouse harvest table with fancy, ruffled cream-slipcovered chairs,” she laughs. A rattan, bell-shaped pendant lamp hangs above the table, echoing the shape of a dinner bell outside the kitchen door—a surprise Mother’s Day gift from her three children.

> “
> We owe so much to many people who were so kind and generous throughout our building journey.
> ”

without them. From digging the foundation with my brother to parties with friends putting down coil for floor heat to wallpaper mistakes and plumbing experiments and disasters to hot summer days painting the entire house the same shade of white and giving all the trim four coats of glossy paint… We owe so much to many people who were so kind and generous throughout our building journey.”

Flawless rigidity has no place in a home built by hands and hearts. Wasserman smiles every time she looks at the spots where paint dripped on windowsills or ran down trim, where cupboards don't quite line up, the floor bubbles or the grout is too fat. “That's because every inch has been touched with love, and there's no better feeling to live in, and to be surrounded by, than that.”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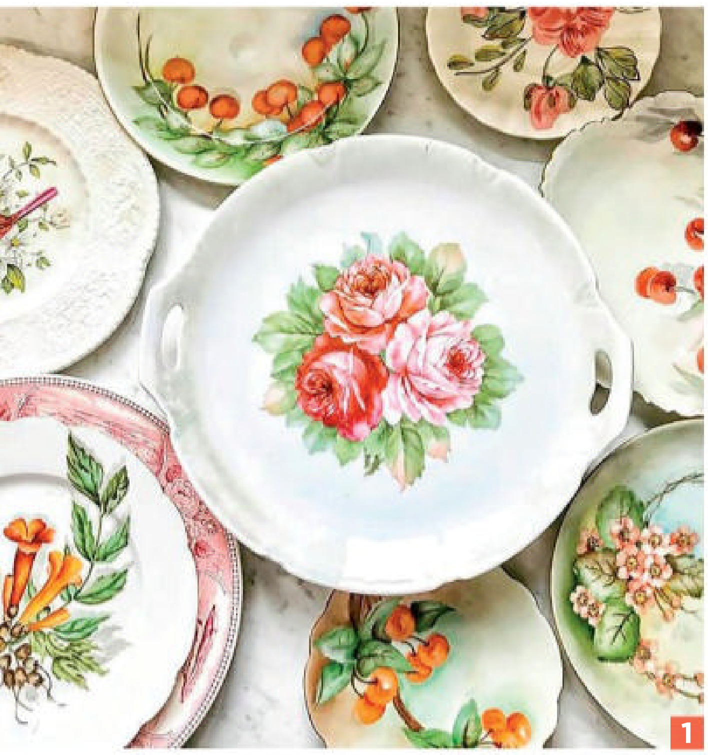
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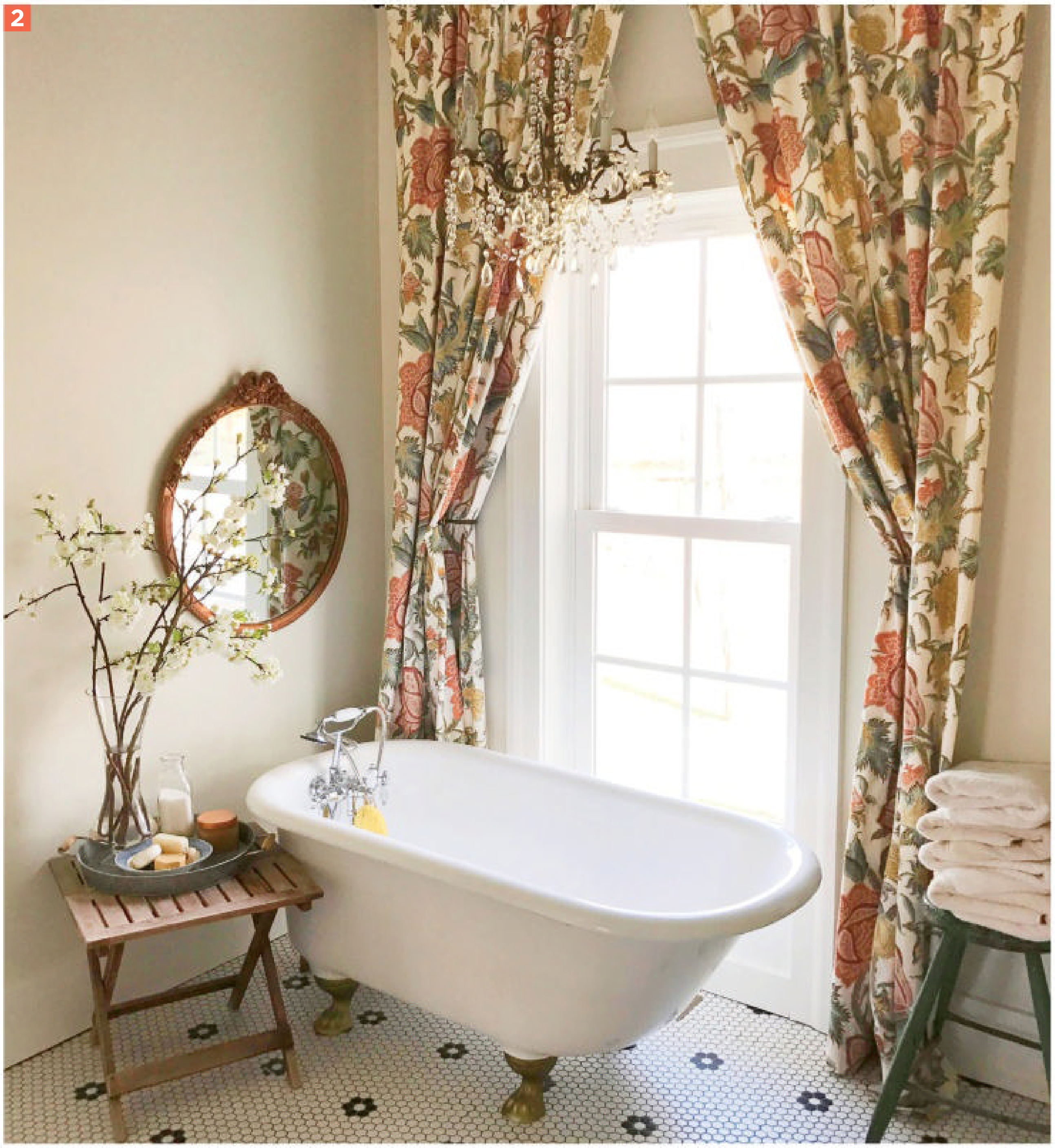
1 Wasserman's vintage china-plate collection features florals, all in similar hues. A selection of them now hangs in the master bedroom. **2** In strawberry season, Wasserman gets a little helping hand at the big farmhouse sink. **3** She describes her kitchen as “the perfect mix of new and old, warmth and texture, to give you that cozy, ‘lived-in’ feeling.” The couple found the sink on eBay, salvaged in Louisiana, and refurbished it to its former glory. It is a 1937 rolled rim, cast-iron Kohler with a bright-chrome faucet. They hand-built the white, farmhouse-style cabinets, then added glitzy brass-and-crystal hardware and chic white Carrara marble–style counters. The distressed, whitewashed wood island complements the rustic French-country range hood. “I purchased the blue kitchen scale to the right of my sink at a local antique shop called Old School Warehouse for $10, and I can't imagine my kitchen without it,” she says. “It's the perfect pop of color and rusty texture.”

3

1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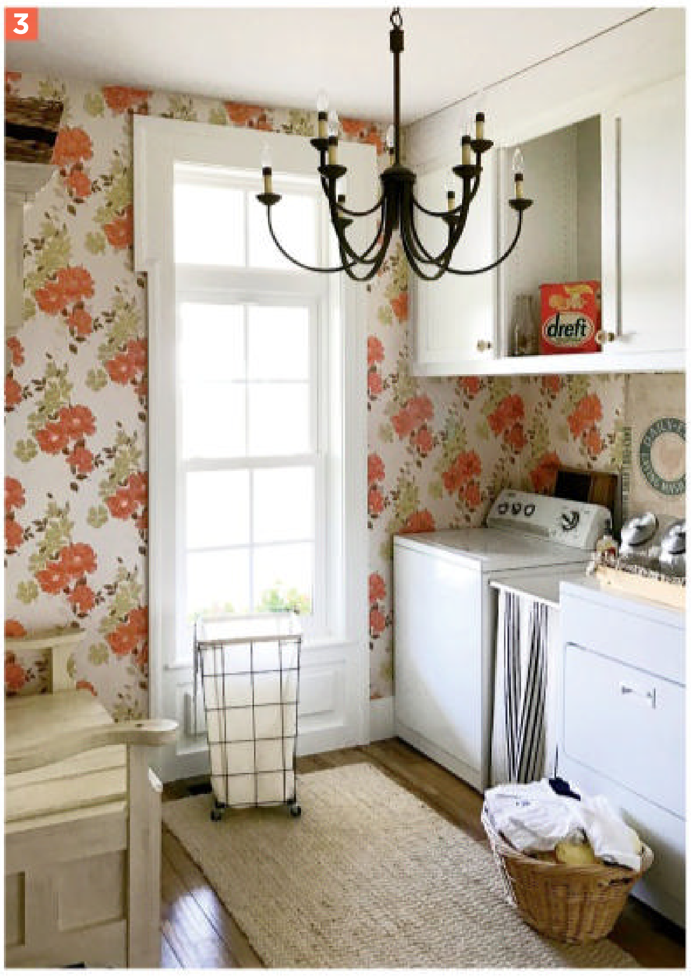
1 Wasserman likes to change up the décor in the master bedroom. But the plate wall behind the vintage-style bed is there to stay. "I squeezed in one last plate, and now I think it's complete," she notes. "It makes me happy to see all these treasures hanging bright for all to see instead of hiding in a cupboard." **2** "Our 1920s clawfoot tub is from a home in Dayton that was so fancy, they had clawfoot tubs in every bathroom!" says Wasserman. "They were so well kept that ours barely needed any work to the original porcelain." **3** The laundry-room wallpaper is from Graham & Brown. "Wallpaper is quite an obsession of mine," shares Wasserman. "We have seven rooms/accent walls that are wallpapered in some way, and those are my most favorite rooms of all."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The Farmhouse Formula

There's no wrong way to approach this timeless style. But here's one way to do it right.

Start With a Neutral Color Palette

"Our walls are painted white. Most furniture and cabinets, unless they're accent pieces, are white, tan or natural wood," Wasserman shares.

Add Lots of Texture

She likes cowhide rugs, chippy paint and barnwood, rattan, exposed brick, macramé and velvet.

Create a Sense of Warmth

She suggests bringing in warm elements through pillows, wallpaper, artwork or warm wood tones in furniture.

Go a Little Glam

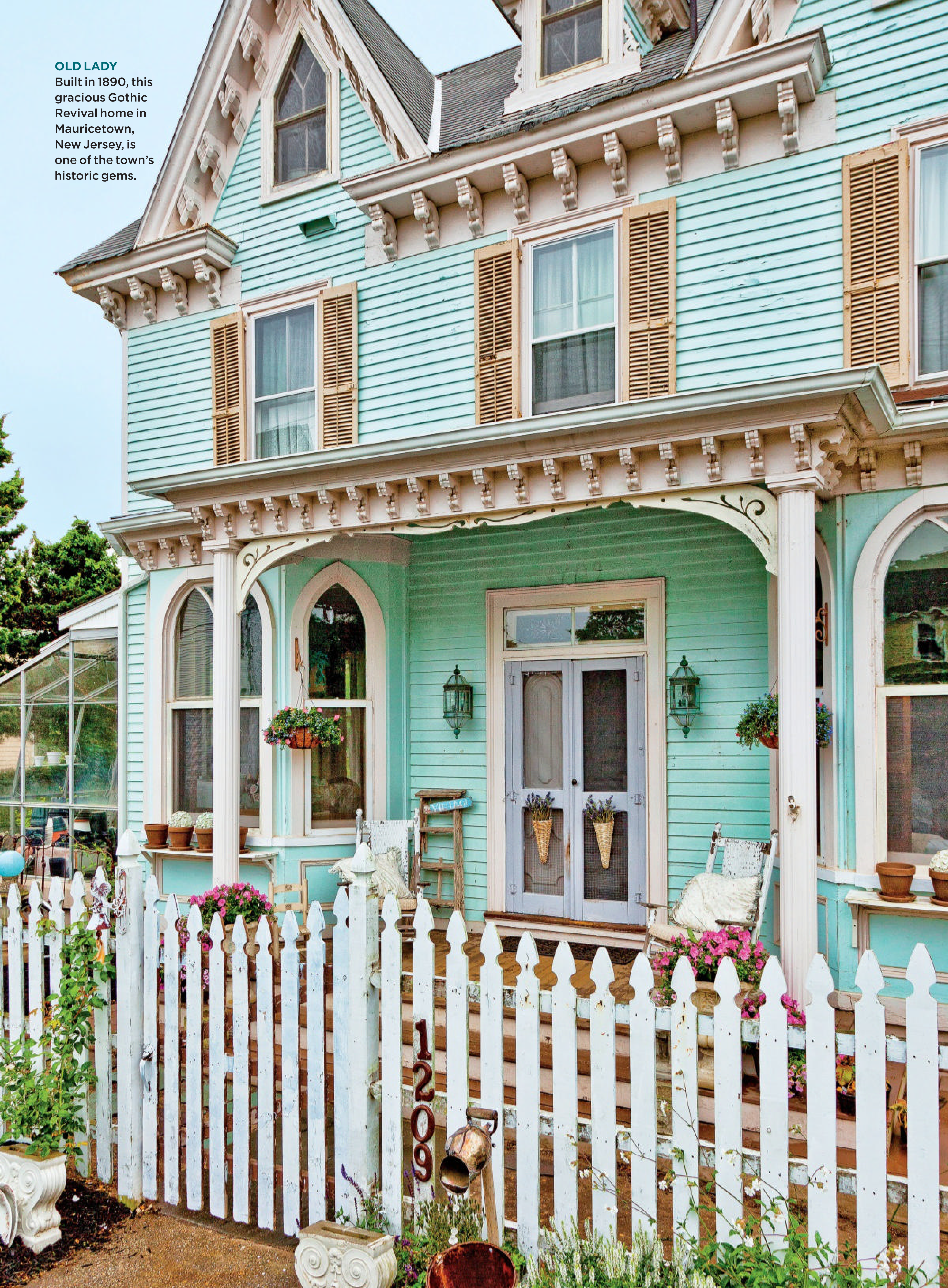
Her country farmhouse embraces a note of big-city elegance with crystal chandeliers, glass knobs on dressers, brass lamps, mirrors, lush flowers and ruffled curtains and chair covers.

Sprinkle in a Few Vintage Items

"Some of my favorites are vintage typewriters, scales, clocks, grain sacks, glass and decorative vessels, pots and tins, books, botanical artwork...the list goes on!"

Don't Shun the Unexpected

Consider bold wallpaper, a pull-down map or a funky antique accent chair or bench. "Push outside of your comfort zone, without worrying about whether everything matches," Wasserman says. "Above all, each space should feel warm, inviting, very lived in and loved."


VINTAGE
1209

OLD LADY Built in 1890, this gracious Gothic Revival home in Mauricetown, New Jersey, is one of the town's historic gems.

SHABBY TO CHIC

An enterprising designer with a passion for rescuing vintage cast-offs went looking for the house of her dreams.

Photography by **John Ellis**

A basket filled with the season's bounty is a wreath alternative when hung on the front door.

FROM THE FIELD The homeowner's welcoming hospitality starts at the pale purple front door where lavender hangs in baskets.

CETOWN, N.J. 08329
ST OFFICE

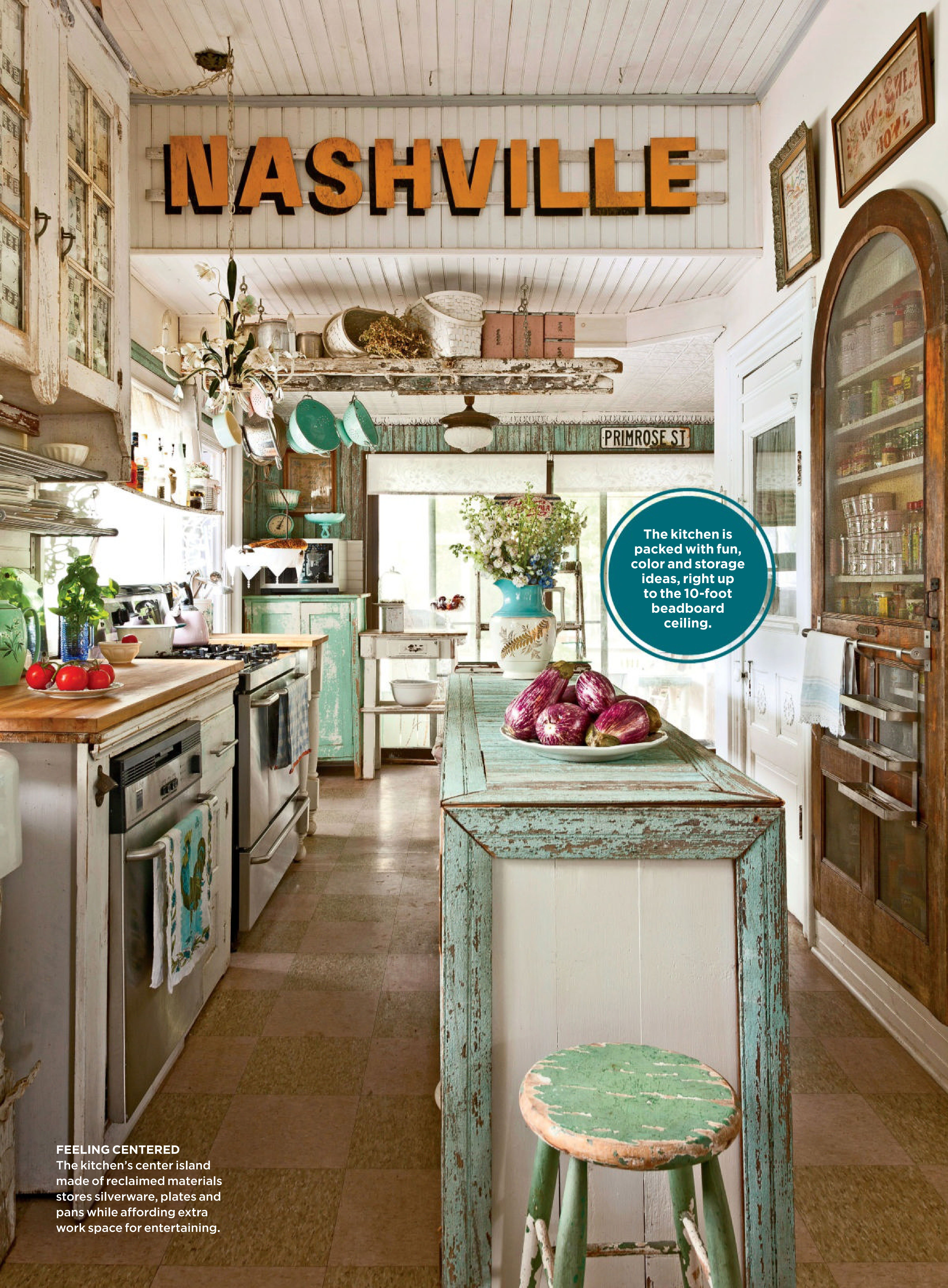
Layers of antique framed mirrors on a mantel reflect natural light and feel less uptight than just one.

When Michelle Joy first laid eyes on a rundown 1890 Gothic Revival house in the quaint community of Mauricetown, New Jersey, this intrepid champion of all things vintage was horrified. “It was almost 4, 000 square feet on 2 acres and in dreadful condition,” she recalls. “And, it was 30 miles from the business I own. This was a too-complicated rescue job.” So she fled, only to be drawn back by an intuitive friend several months later when Joy’s need to find a house for herself, her son and two dogs had become more pressing.

“The second time around, I saw the possibilities and the light inside, created by the wavy glass of the original windows, was magical,” she admits. “I felt so bad about how the house had been updated that I became compelled to help it. A quote from *Under the Tuscan Sun* [the 1996 novel by Frances Mayes] kept playing in my head, which goes something like, ‘I bought a house for a life I don’t have.’ That’s exactly what I did. This wasn’t the house of my dreams, but over the years it became the house of my heart.”

A native of New Jersey but new to Mauricetown, Joy says the town embraced her efforts as she improved the house. “In the 19th century, this area was a center for oyster production. And there are many lovely cottages and stately homes that were built for the prosperous during that

◂**DIY DOOR TABLE** The coffee table was made from an old door and discarded porch columns. “I love to take cast-off pieces of furniture and recast them into useful and lovely things,” Joy says. “It defines my passion for collecting.”



The kitchen is packed with fun, color and storage ideas, right up to the 10-foot beadboard ceiling.

FEELING CENTERED
The kitchen's center island made of reclaimed materials stores silverware, plates and pans while affording extra work space for entertaining.

Just because something is meant to hang doesn't mean you can't prop it up instead.

◀ **NOT HANGING AROUND** A vintage bird feeder holds cloth napkins in the kitchen. The choice to lean it rather than hang it speaks to the home's casual ease.

▼ **A LOVE FOR LINEN** Vintage linens folded under a serving plate or bowl of fresh fruit and cheese add a thoughtful touch to the presentation.

time," she explains. "Once people realized I have a passion for preserving and recycling, they began to call me the 'pretty junk girl,' and they supported my vision."

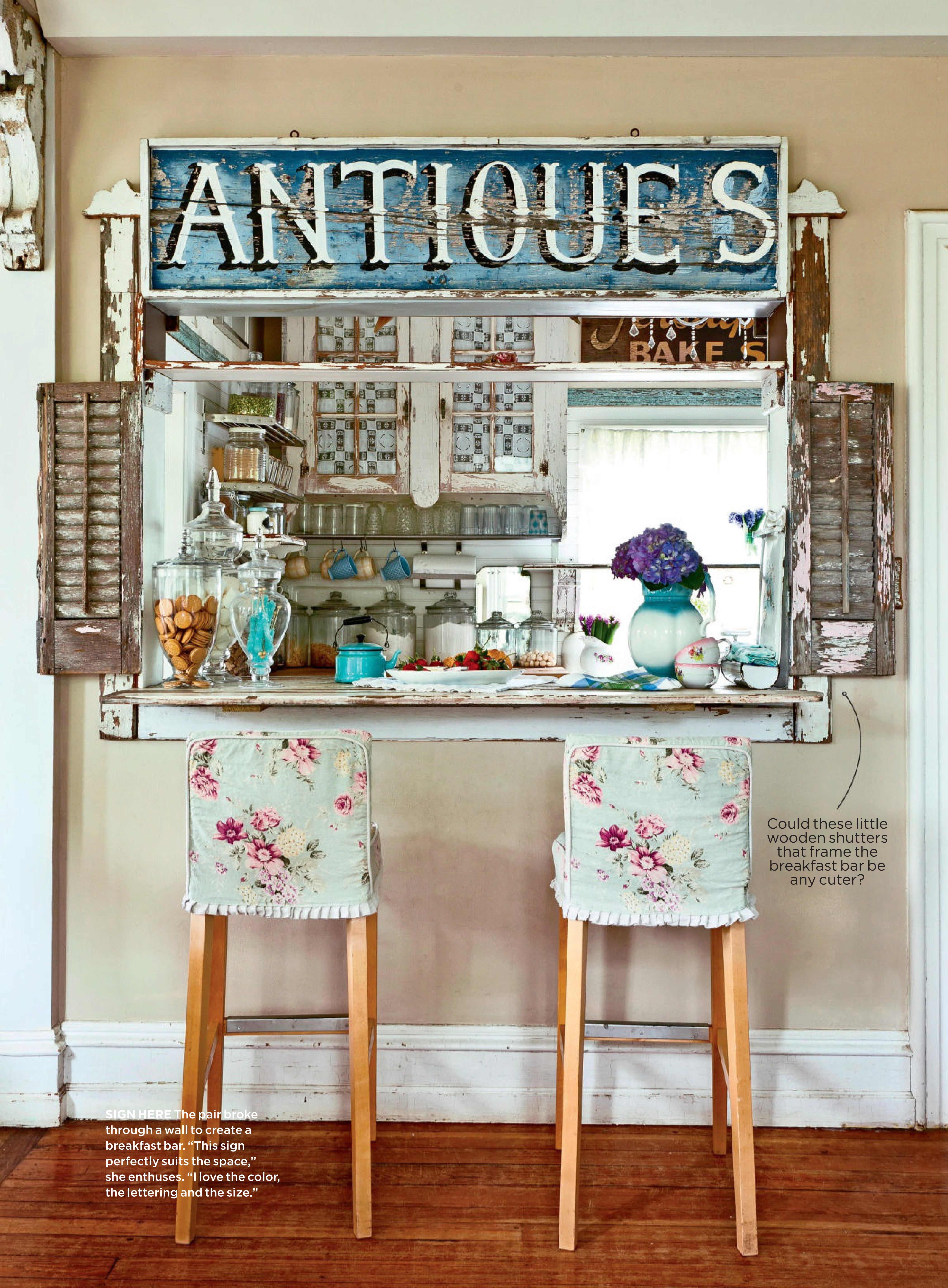
Joy avidly collects for her home but also for her business, Primrose and Company, located in Somers Point. Primrose is a floral emporium that offers vintage goods for sale and rent. Wedding planning is also a significant part of the Primrose brand of services.

At home, Joy was lucky to have the aid of her father, Jerry Heffron, who lent a skilled helping hand. After painting the exterior and adding

▶ **PASTA, I'M READY FOR YOU** Colanders in an assortment of colors and sizes get a touch of whimsy when hanging restaurant-style from an old ladder.

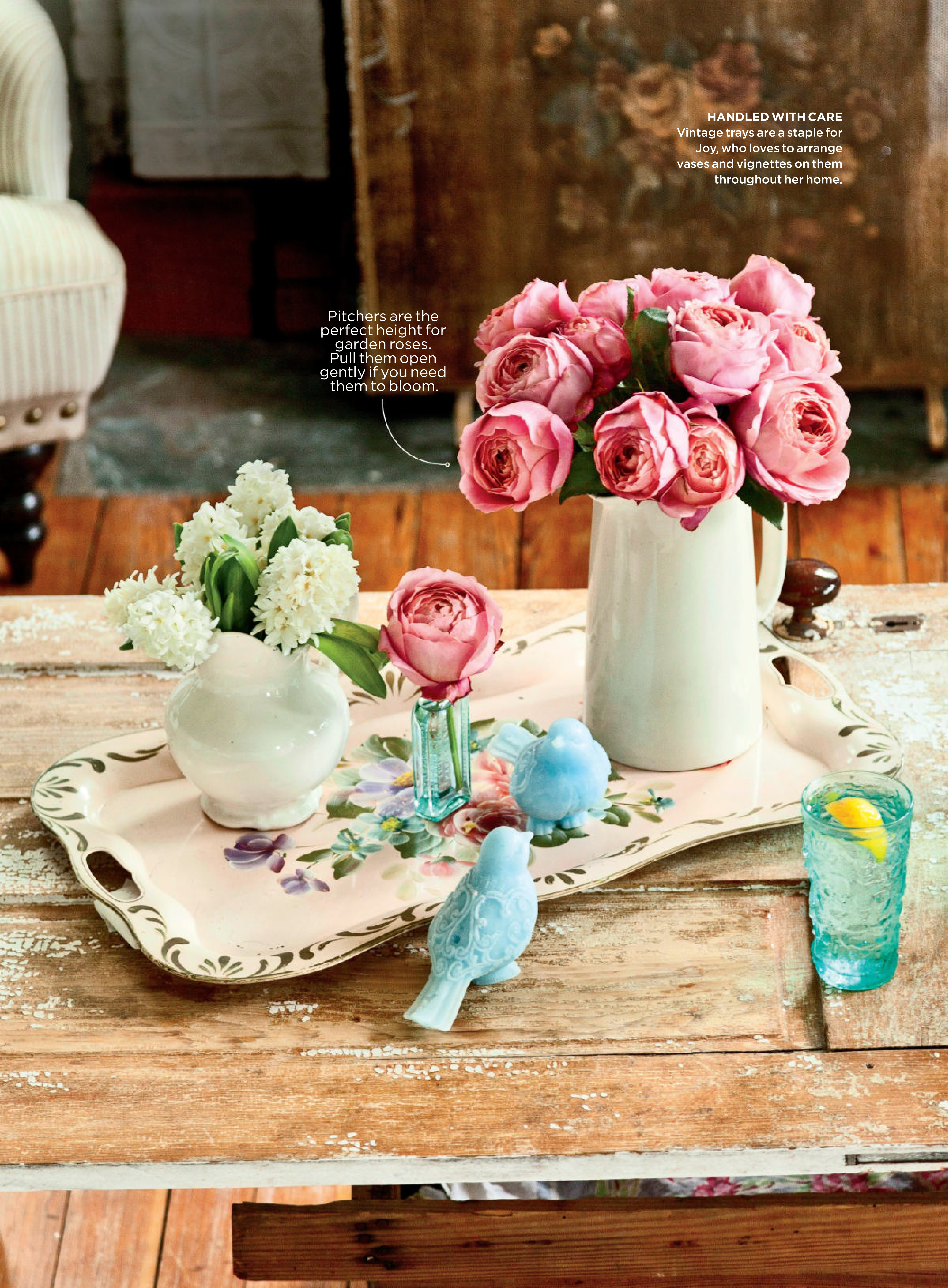
Joy and her dad built the rustic sideboard using wood from an old restaurant. The top wears vintage wallpaper.

MY FAVORITE THINGS The heirloom birdcage is one of Joy's favorite pieces of tabletop architecture in a home that favors mirrors and vases of lush cabbage roses.



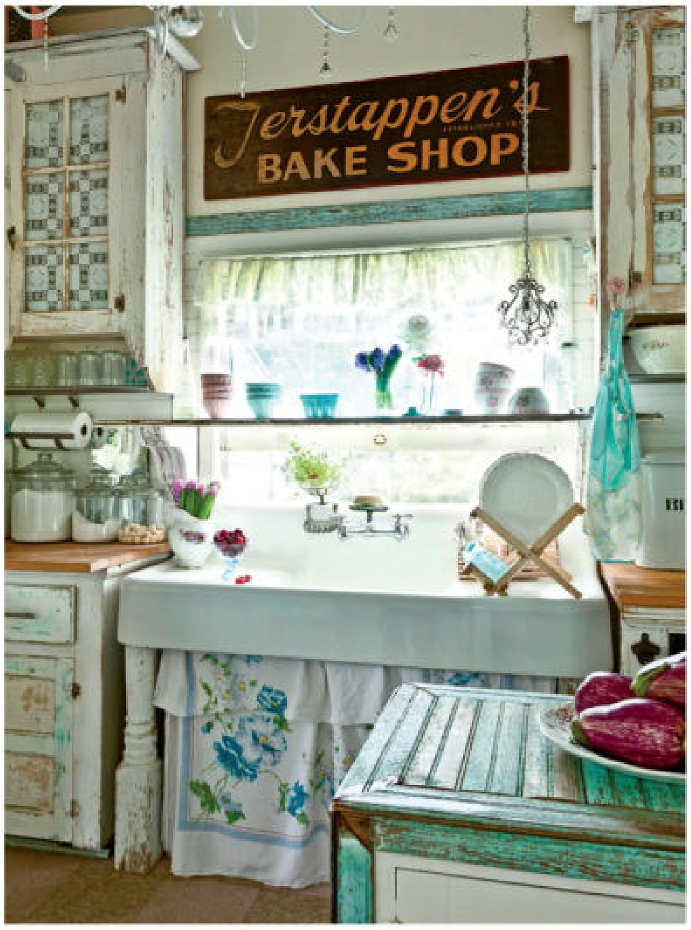
Could these little wooden shutters that frame the breakfast bar be any cuter?

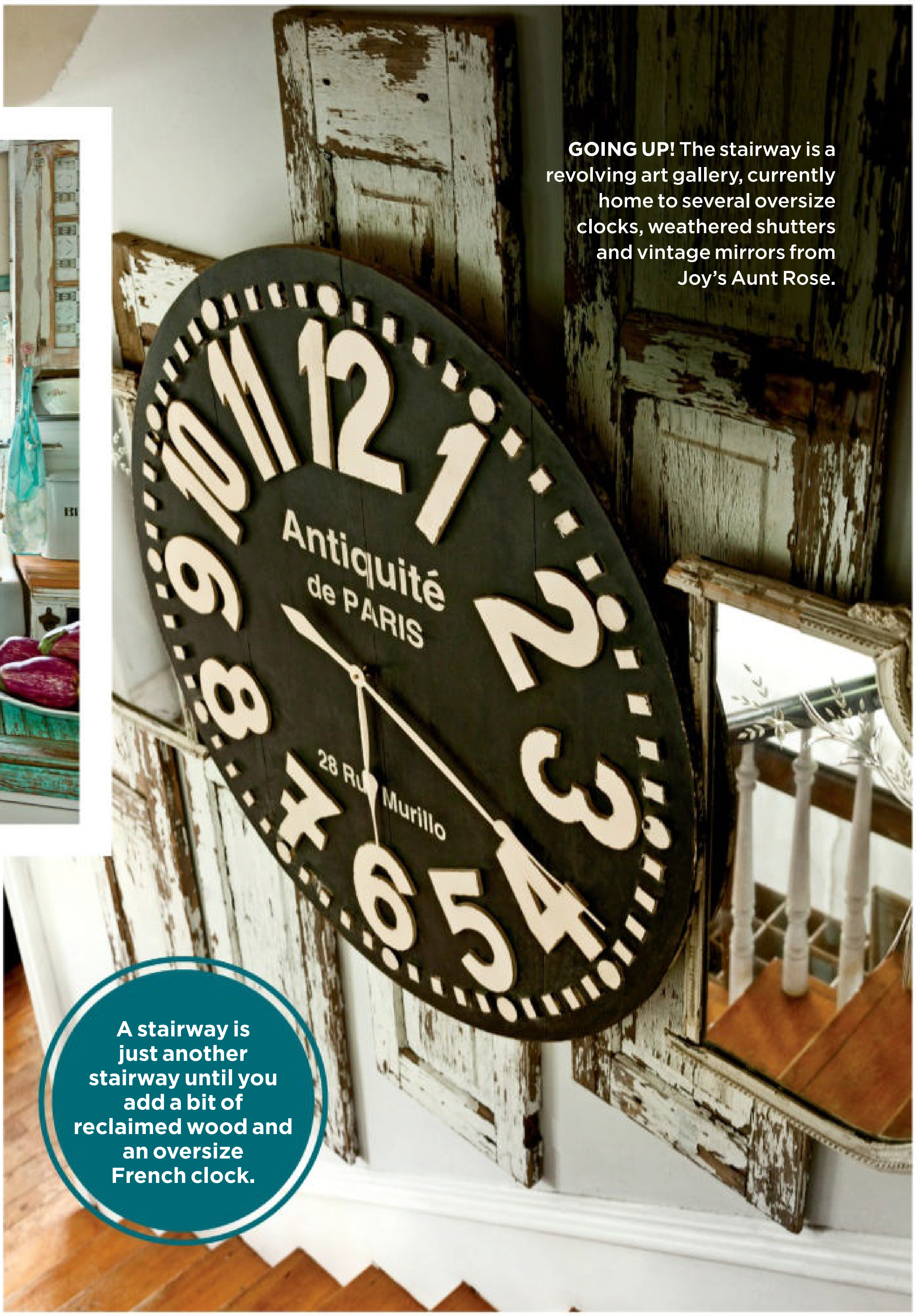
SIGN HERE The pair broke through a wall to create a breakfast bar. “This sign perfectly suits the space,” she enthuses. “I love the color, the lettering and the size.”



HANDLED WITH CARE Vintage trays are a staple for Joy, who loves to arrange vases and vignettes on them throughout her home.

Pitchers are the perfect height for garden roses. Pull them open gently if you need them to bloom.





GOING UP! The stairway is a revolving art gallery, currently home to several oversize clocks, weathered shutters and vintage mirrors from Joy's Aunt Rose.

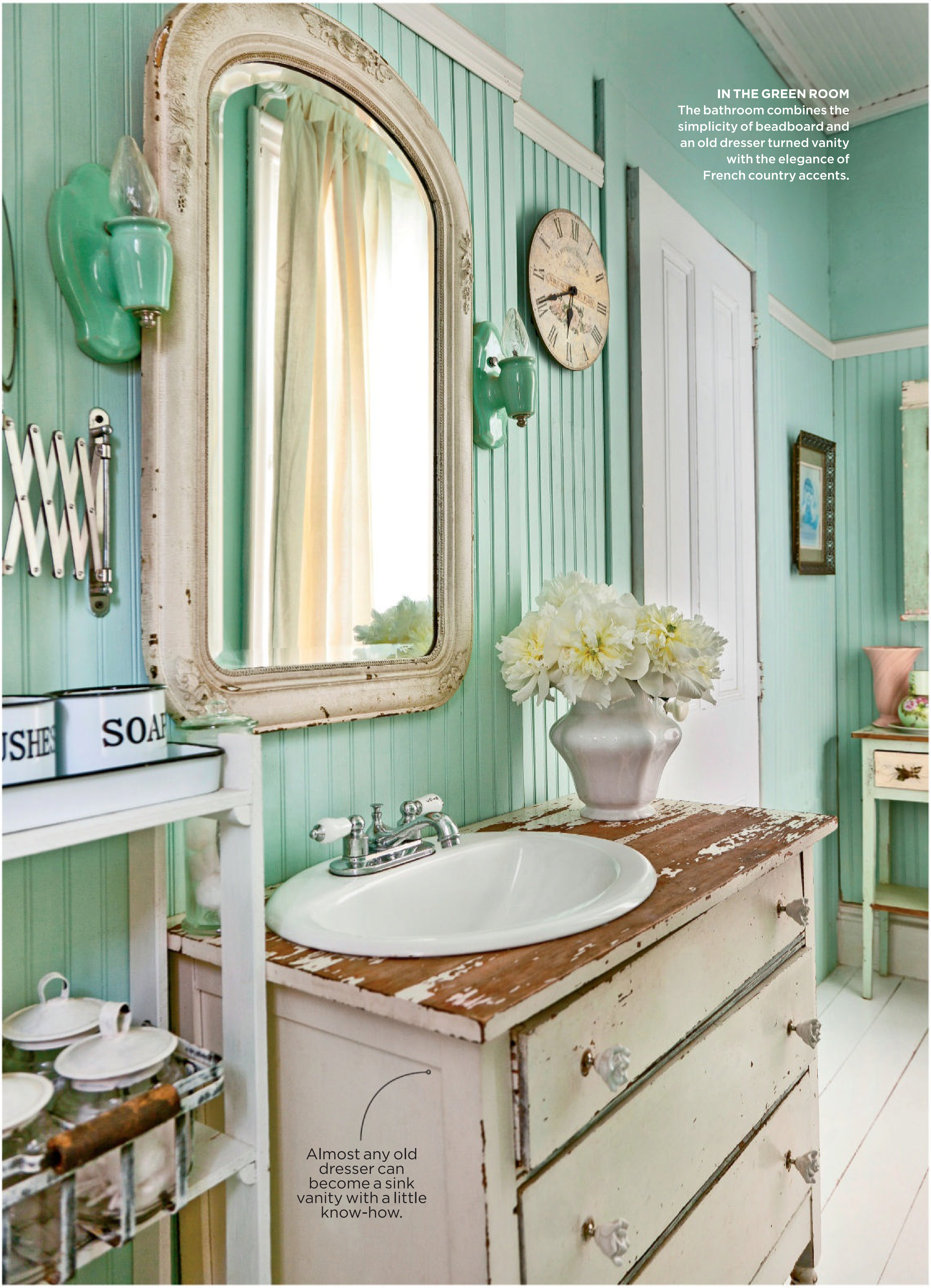
double screen doors, the pair went to work on the kitchen. Removing some of the misguided updates revealed a 10-foot-high beadboard ceiling. Joy and her dad constructed the kitchen furniture from cast-off porch posts, doors and shutters before she brought in a large porcelain farmhouse sink. Throughout the home, a tranquil shade of soft aqua, which Joy calls "pool," brings continuity and comfort to these once-neglected spaces.

A later addition was the screened-in back porch with a cathedral ceiling. (The large property enables Joy to store vintage rental items for Primrose and Company.) With six bedrooms and plenty of entertainment space, this curated abode is more than guest-friendly. "I love to cook and I enjoy having my family and friends here," she says. "As I continue to refine the house I follow my one design rule: Live with what I love. It works every time."

A stairway is just another stairway until you add a bit of reclaimed wood and an oversize French clock.

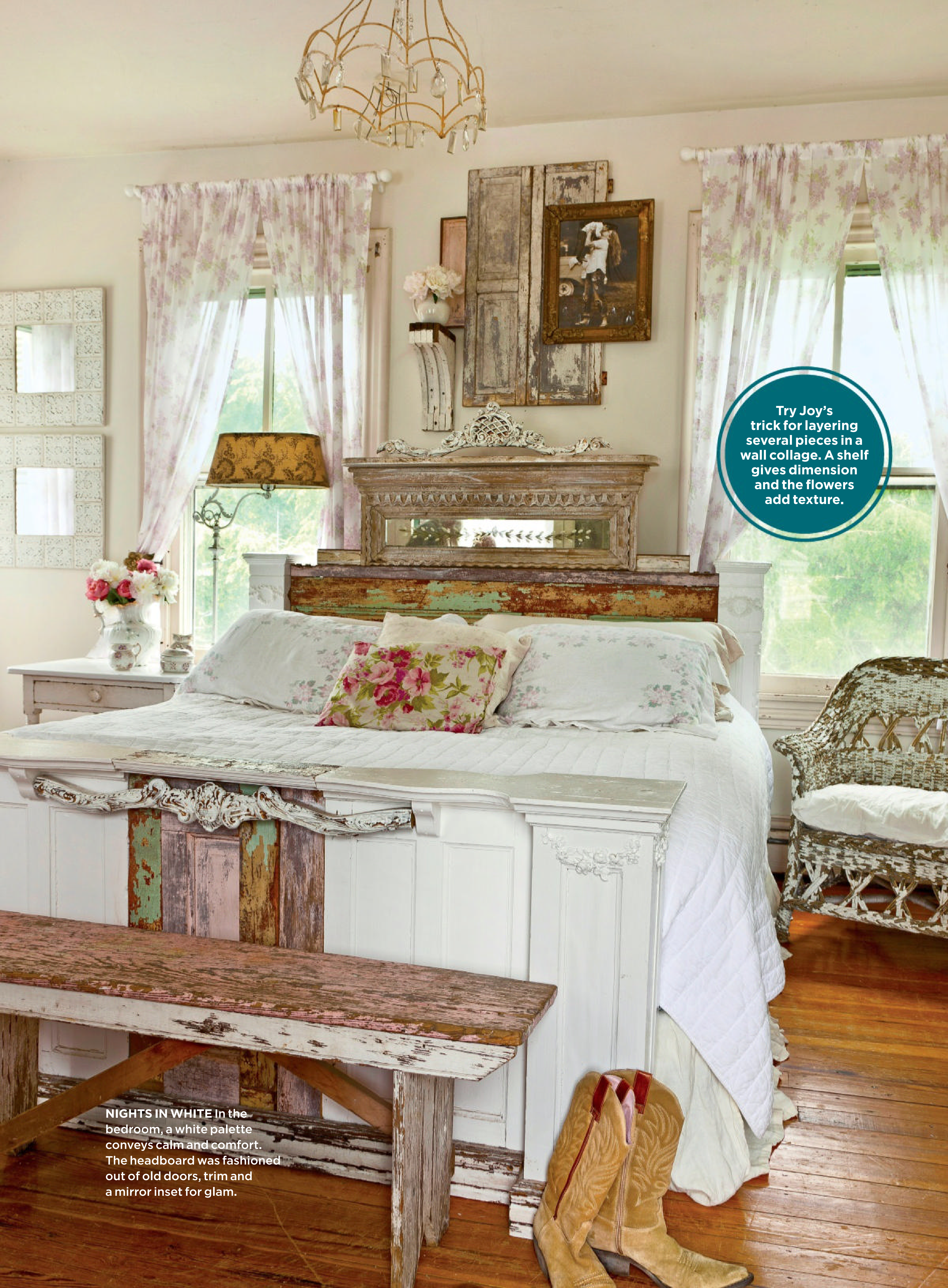
▲ **CURTAIN CALL** Several beauties from her collection of vintage linens create a sweet curtain in front of the kitchen sink.

▶ **TAKE IT OUTSIDE** Around every corner is an opportunity to decorate and make a home more interesting. Even the side of Joy's house features a vintage ladder and a sideways sign.



IN THE GREEN ROOM The bathroom combines the simplicity of beadboard and an old dresser turned vanity with the elegance of French country accents.

Almost any old dresser can become a sink vanity with a little know-how.

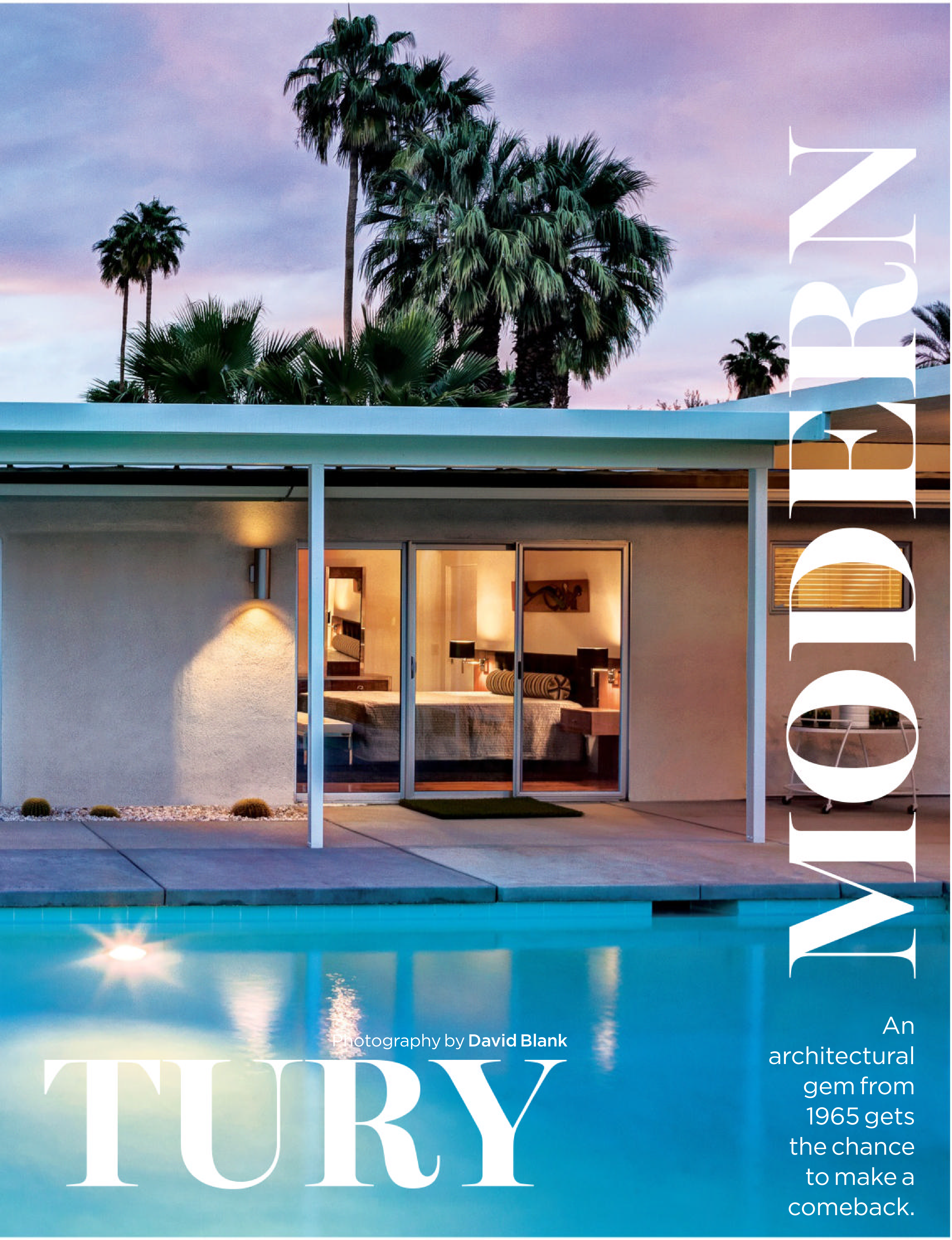


NIGHTS IN WHITE In the bedroom, a white palette conveys calm and comfort. The headboard was fashioned out of old doors, trim and a mirror inset for glam.

Try Joy's trick for layering several pieces in a wall collage. A shelf gives dimension and the flowers add texture.

The backyard pool where they keep cool all summer was one of the last elements to complete this couple's restoration of their Palm Springs home, built by architect Donald Wexler in 1965.

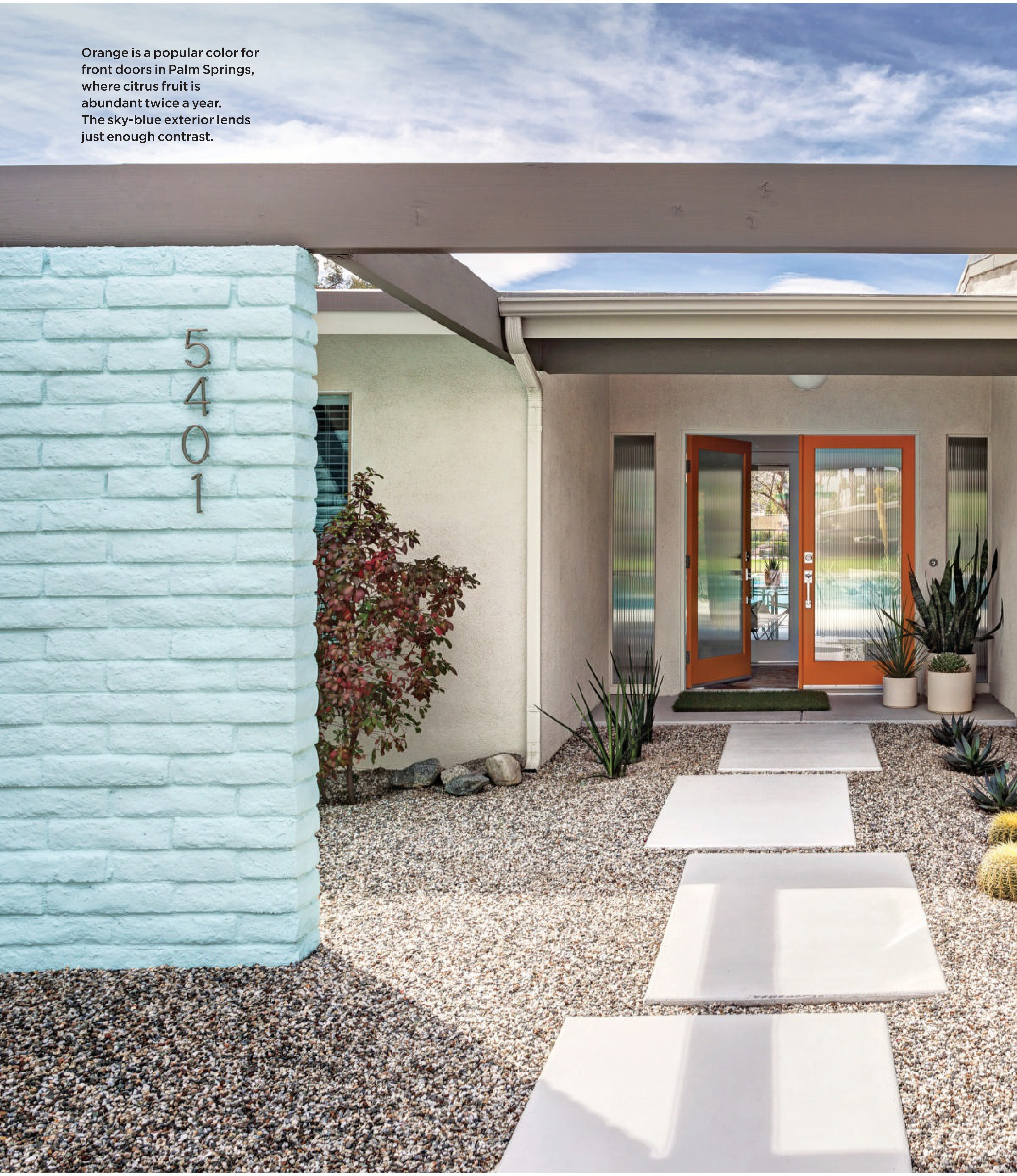
MID-CEN



TURY MODERN

Photography by **David Blank**

An architectural gem from 1965 gets the chance to make a comeback.

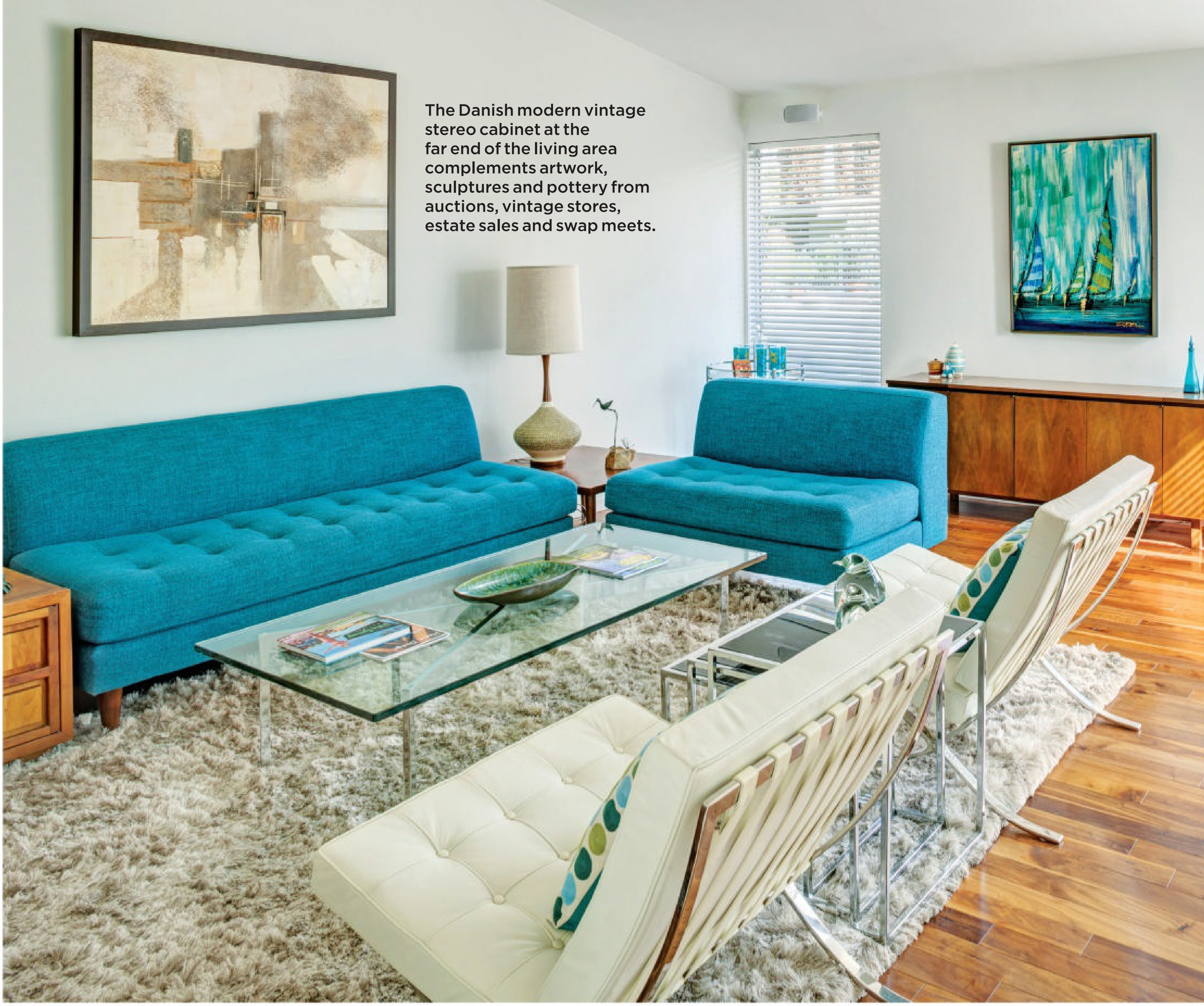

Orange is a popular color for front doors in Palm Springs, where citrus fruit is abundant twice a year. The sky-blue exterior lends just enough contrast.

In Palm Springs, California, preservation is a way of life. Vintage homes, civic buildings and commercial structures alike have star status if they were built during the middle of the last century or before, particularly if the architecture is of note—which it often is. Unless a residence has an official historic designation to protect it, however, it's up to individual homeowners whether they buy and then restore these homes that reflect the area's mid-century modern lineage or tear them down in favor of new construction.

It seems like an obvious choice. But many mid-century modern homes in this palm tree–studded Southern California desert were originally erected on the cheap as affordable vacation homes for postwar families seeking a getaway in "Hollywood's Playground." Set in these early neighborhoods, they occupy prime lots with spectacular mountain views. The combination of thrifty materials and excellent real estate make them easy targets for demolition.

So when graphic artist and vintage store owner Judy Christensen says "We saved this home," she means it.

Nine years ago, she and her husband, Steve Powell, bought this now reborn property on a lush golf course facing the San Jacinto



The Danish modern vintage stereo cabinet at the far end of the living area complements artwork, sculptures and pottery from auctions, vintage stores, estate sales and swap meets.

mountains. Once part of a mid-century development called Green Fairway Estates, it had been turned into an assisted living facility that fell into severe disrepair. "It was a dump," says Powell. "So it had sat on the market for nine months and hadn't sold," despite the home's architectural pedigree and fairway locale.

As a bank-owned foreclosure, the price was a steal. The three-bedroom home was built by celebrated mid-century architect Donald Wexler, a Palm Springs icon with a star on the city's Walk of Stars. That fact alone made it worth saving. So the pair devoted their weekends to driving up from San Diego to breathe life back into it room by room.

"Sadly, there was nothing vintage left inside," Christensen says. Yet with the original floor plan in hand, they began reconstructing rooms, removing walls, replacing windows and putting the pieces of 1965 back where they belonged. "Once we started demoing, you could see the contractor marks on the floor, so we knew where things were supposed to be," she adds. "Because we didn't have anything original to work with, we did a ton of research. We immersed ourselves in this era with everything I could find: online, movies, magazines, original brochures...."

For mid-century style, they laid walnut floors and poured terrazzo in the kitchen and master bathroom. "I like the fact that we tried to stay original with most of the furniture, light fixtures and even the artwork," Powell says. That process spawned Christensen's business, MIX Modern in Cathedral City, where she has resold beautiful vintage furniture for the past six years.

Powell, who retired from Marine Corp Aviation and a career as a government contractor, works on the landscape for the home that, when they purchased it, was fronted entirely by red brick laid in concrete. Years of meticulous renovation paid off when their vintage home was featured on a Palm Springs' Modernism Week home tour in 2017.

"The biggest takeaway for me was finding this home and saving it," Christensen says. "We did so much of the work ourselves, made the best of it and lived here when it was almost unlivable because it was our labor of love."

A vintage chrome, glass and reupholstered velour dining set by Milo Baughman brings authenticity to the dining area.

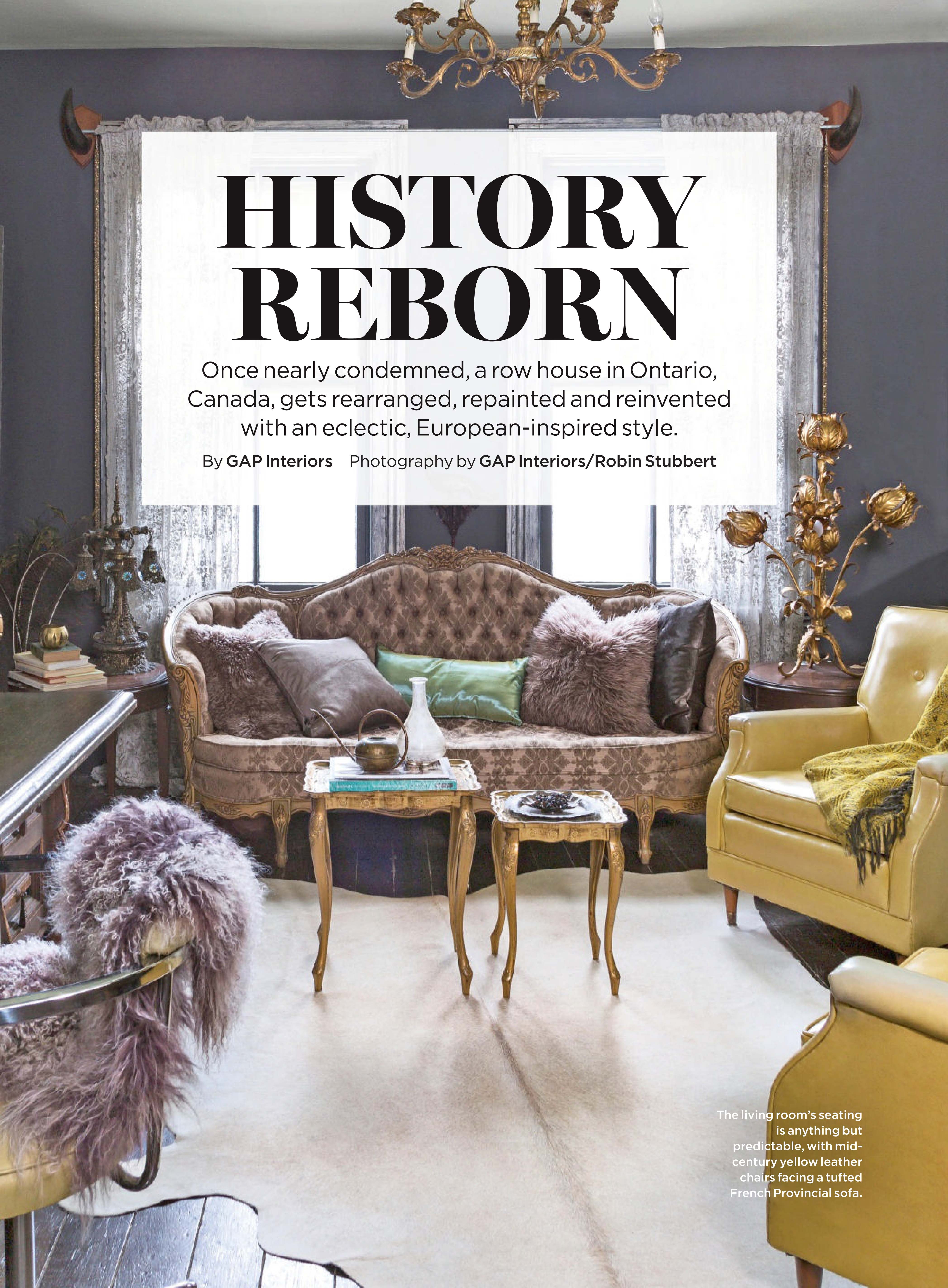
> “The biggest takeaway for me was finding this home and saving it.”
>
> JUDY CHRISTENSEN

The master suite blends new and vintage furnishings in an open plan. Christensen purchased the black leather tufted headboard, then commissioned a woodworker to build custom wall-mounted nightstands she designed.

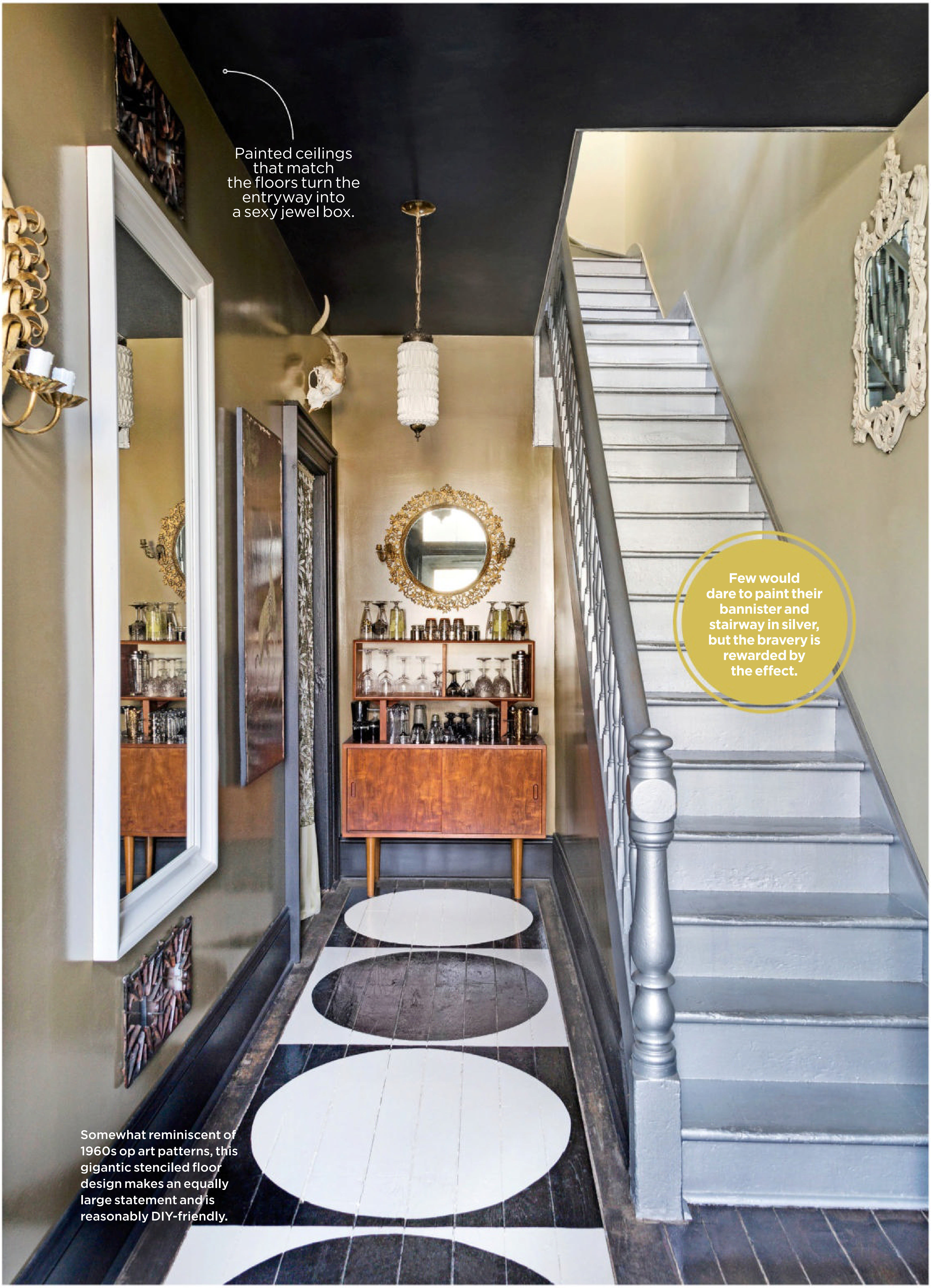
HISTORY REBORN

Once nearly condemned, a row house in Ontario, Canada, gets rearranged, repainted and reinvented with an eclectic, European-inspired style.

By **GAP Interiors** Photography by **GAP Interiors/Robin Stubbert**



The living room's seating is anything but predictable, with mid-century yellow leather chairs facing a tufted French Provincial sofa.



Painted ceilings that match the floors turn the entryway into a sexy jewel box.

Few would dare to paint their bannister and stairway in silver, but the bravery is rewarded by the effect.

Somewhat reminiscent of 1960s op art patterns, this gigantic stenciled floor design makes an equally large statement and is reasonably DIY-friendly.

Neutral plates in several sizes ensure just the right combination for any occasion. The consistent palette sets a tranquil table.

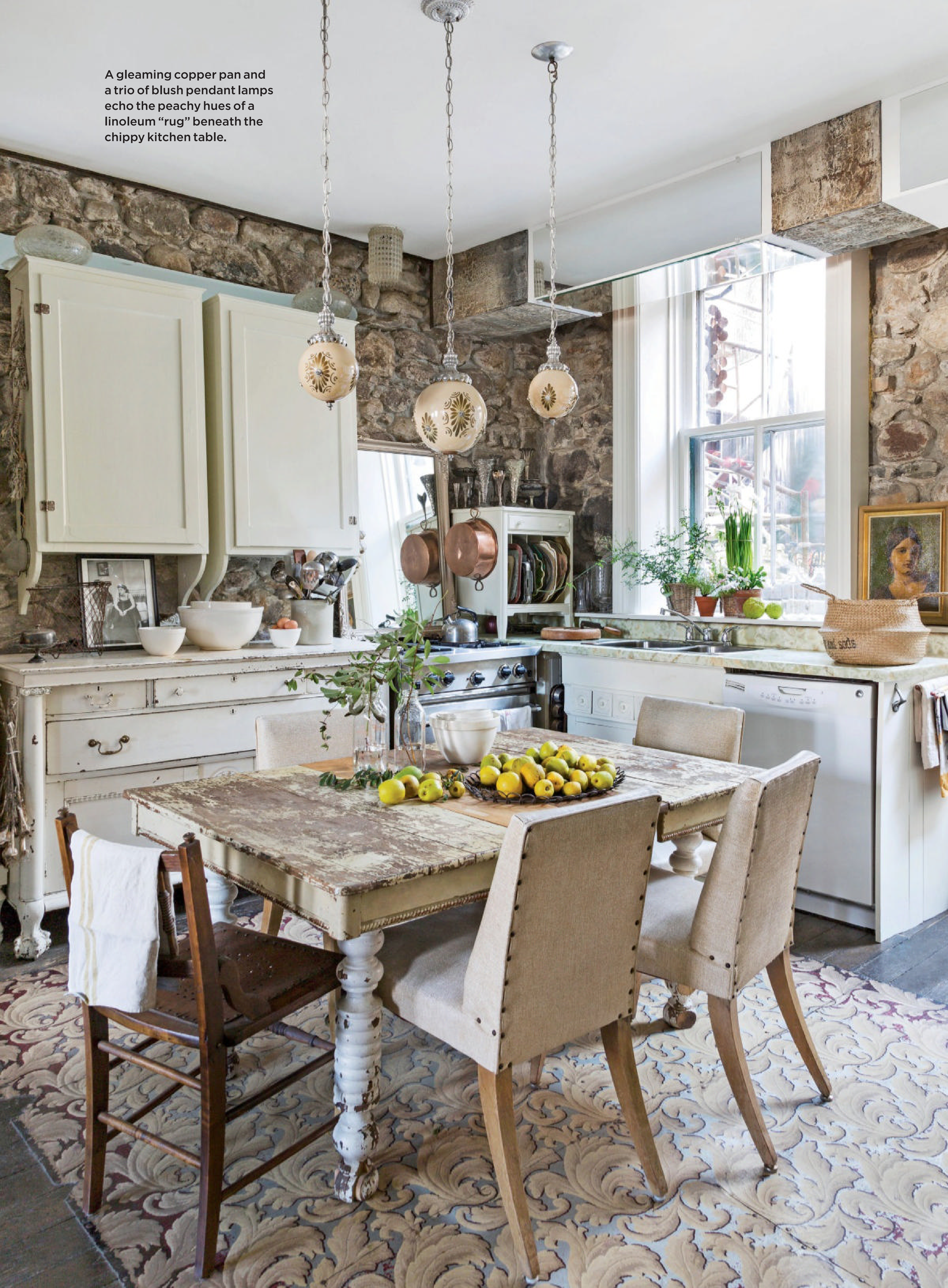
The addition of an old photograph ties the kitchen to the rest of the home, proving it is just as decorated.

This stunningly chic home is a far cry from the neglected building Caroline Telfer fought so hard to buy. Her vision and tenacity is commendable, as this historic row house in scenic Paris, Ontario, Canada, is now a lavishly furnished gem that will continue to stand proud for years to come.

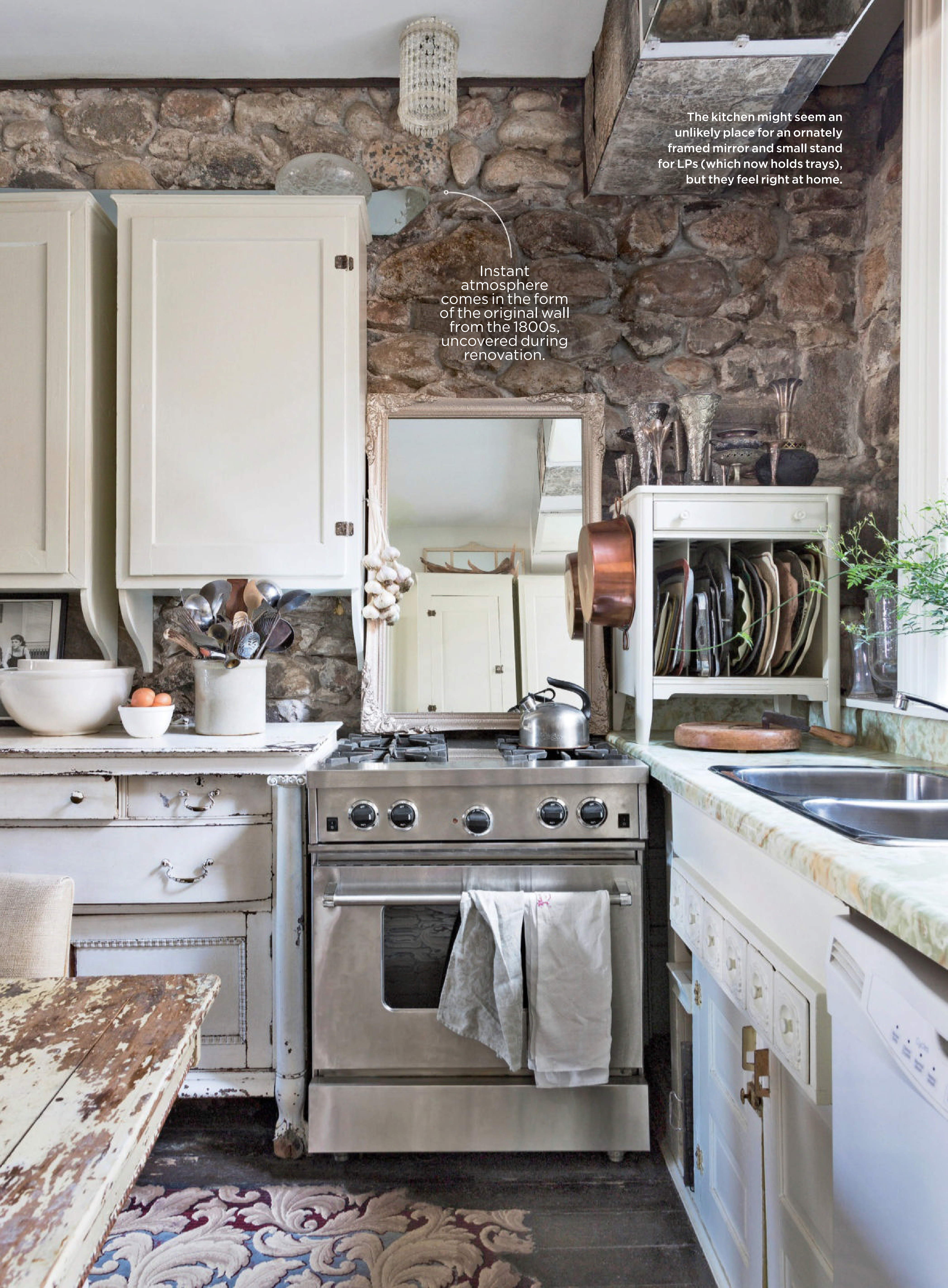
When Caroline found the house and sensed its possibilities—“It really was all I could afford, to be honest,” she says—some raccoons had already taken up residence in the bedrooms and the roof was badly crumbling. Merely finding a bank to believe in her dream proved impossible. With no mortgage available to her, she resorted to securing a private loan. “I don’t often take no for an answer!” explains Caroline, who comes from a farming family outside Paris. “I understand that hard work is necessary to get what you need.” And hard work it was. The home required substantial structural changes. Once the raccoons were “politely” asked to leave, the task of fixing the roof and securing the building began in earnest.

“The roof was replaced with shingles cut from silver steel, but the entire house needed rewiring. I gutted the whole place,” says Caroline. She made some amazing discoveries during the process of stripping everything back to the raw shell. “I found the original stone wall from the 1800s, and it’s beautiful.” So she made sure this long-standing wall was never completely hidden from admiring eyes again by repairing it and leaving a section exposed in her kitchen.

Caroline took a fearless direction



A gleaming copper pan and a trio of blush pendant lamps echo the peachy hues of a linoleum "rug" beneath the chippy kitchen table.



The kitchen might seem an unlikely place for an ornately framed mirror and small stand for LPs (which now holds trays), but they feel right at home.

Instant atmosphere comes in the form of the original wall from the 1800s, uncovered during renovation.

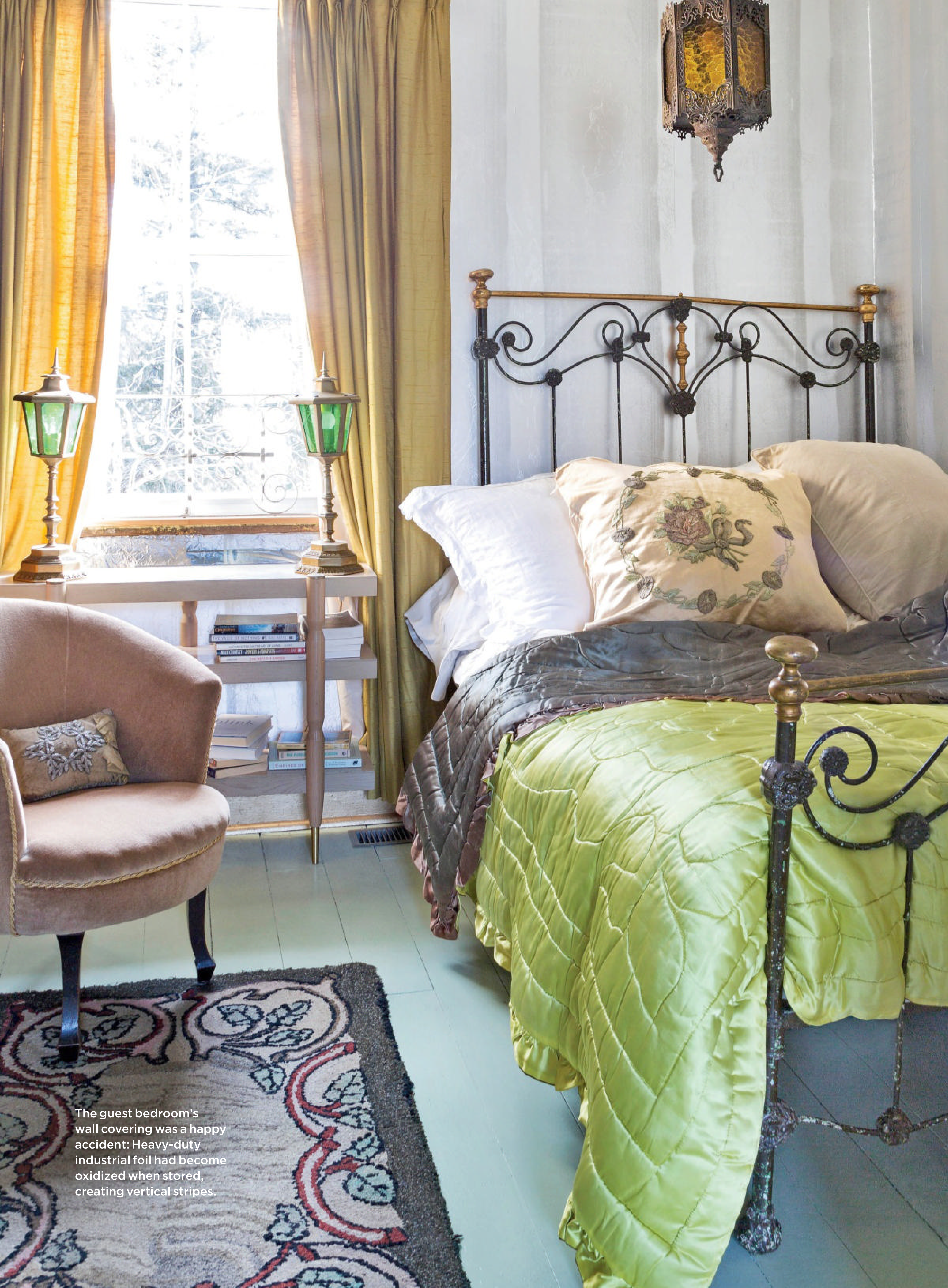
A small stand with a drawer fills dead space in a countertop corner and draws the eye upward.

with the architecture, changing the home's layout and, in some cases, completely relocating rooms. The original bathroom is now a well-used laundry/utility room; an alcove on the first-floor landing is a wonderful library and reading room with a sunny yellow floor. She also added two bathrooms—one on each floor for the three bedrooms—utilizing every bit of her 1,600-square-foot house.

After a year of hard work, Caroline managed to secure a mortgage to complete the property and begin filling her home with a lifelong collection of antique finds and eclectic furnishings. "I love mid-century modern furniture. I've been buying and finding pieces for almost 30 years. Some, I realized quickly, didn't really go with the age and style of the house, but many did." Caroline is clever with color, too, and isn't afraid to paint furniture if that encourages it to fit in.

Bold choices in the hallway begin with a long, silver-painted staircase. A black-and-white geometric design that plays out in an optic hopscotch across the wooden floorboards is accented by gilt-framed mirrors and shimmering walls. The air of opulence is completed by the teak mid-century modern bar showcased at the end of the hall. This glamorous element that one first glimpses upon entering the house is a candid view into Caroline's world. Surely, the sight of a well-stocked bar hints at the beginning of a spirited adventure and makes a befitting invitation into her welcoming home.

Inside the drawers of an old Singer sewing machine, vintage silverware awaits to entertain a few or a crowd.



The guest bedroom's wall covering was a happy accident: Heavy-duty industrial foil had become oxidized when stored, creating vertical stripes.

Who says you need an entire room to have a library? This alcove off a hallway is a mini paradise for book lovers.

The posh entry point gives way to a shabby-chic, French farmhouse-infused kitchen. Caroline's newly exposed stone wall joins a clever "rug" of linoleum on the floor and select pieces of furniture that she has painted—her favorite way to unify flea market finds and family heirlooms. "I used Benjamin Moore's Deep in Thought white," she shares. "It's hard to tell what is old and what is new when it's all painted the same color."

And while some of her beloved mid-century modern furniture didn't make the cut, she found others that seemed to magically appear and ease into just the right nook or space. She purchased the central table for the way it fit perfectly in the room, and picked up the small table at the end of the kitchen counter for a single dollar at an auction. This memorable bargain, originally used to store record albums, now displays trinkets, ornaments and favorite finds on top, and trays inside.

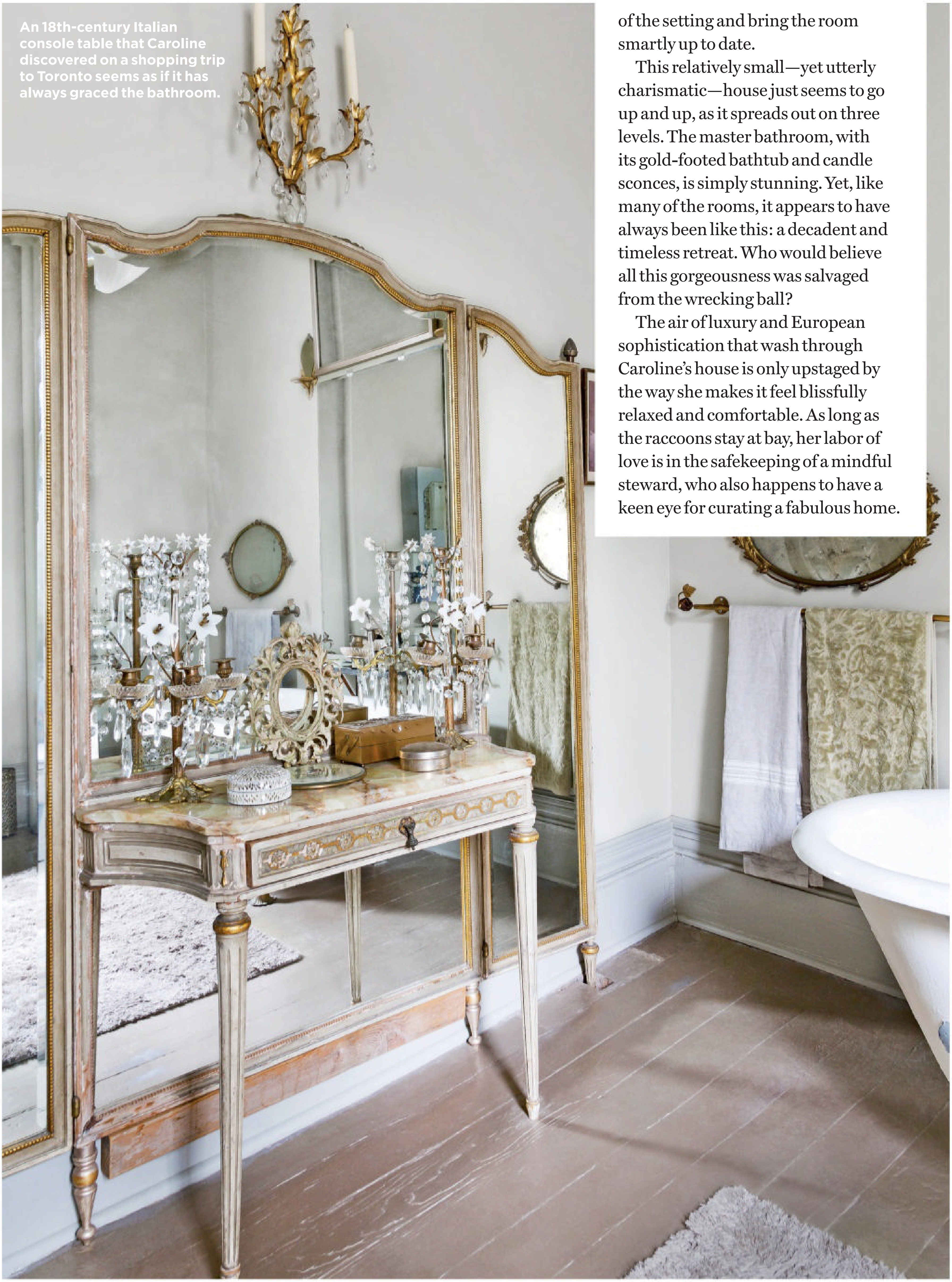
The remainder of her cohesive design for the kitchen came from a plethora of eclectic objects and furniture. The eyes are immediately drawn, for example, to the old Singer sewing machine drawers (painted white) that brim with enough vintage cutlery to service any party.

Throughout the home's reimagining phase, Caroline paced herself, ensuring she got each room just right. "Sometimes it took a while for inspiration to come," she recalls.

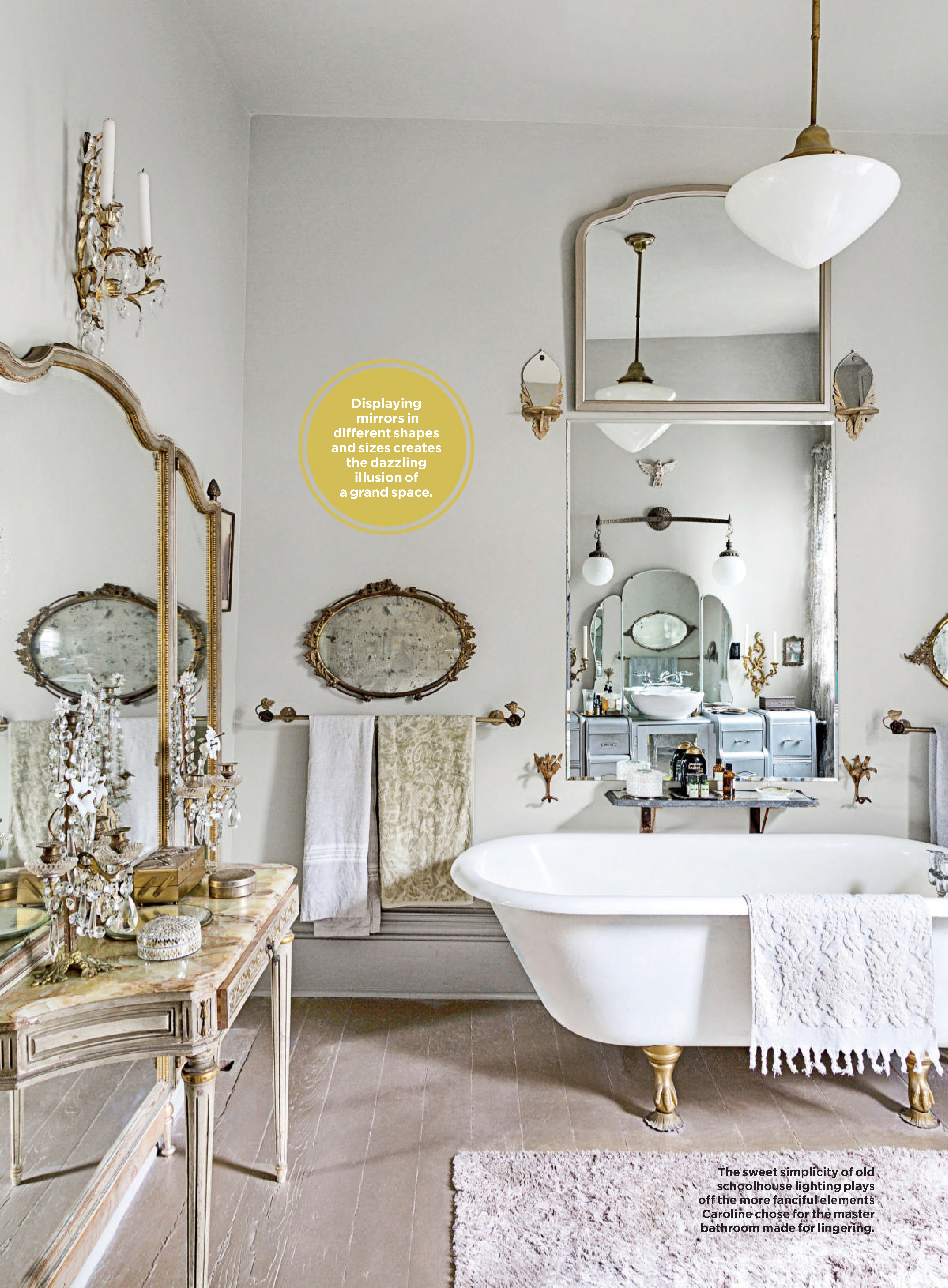
For added contrast and interest, she methodically covered some of the once-rugged walls in certain spaces to give them a smooth, more formal look. This dramatic change also allowed her to paint them in dark and moody colors. "The living room feels like a place to spend the evenings, so the darker colors work really well," she adds. There, her furniture choices become more refined, from the down-filled upholstered sofa that wouldn't look out of place in the drawing room of an old English country estate, to the playful pair of bright-yellow leather armchairs that elevate the quirkiness of the setting and bring the room smartly up to date.

This relatively small—yet utterly charismatic—house just seems to go up and up, as it spreads out on three levels. The master bathroom, with its gold-footed bathtub and candle sconces, is simply stunning. Yet, like many of the rooms, it appears to have always been like this: a decadent and timeless retreat. Who would believe all this gorgeousness was salvaged from the wrecking ball?

The air of luxury and European sophistication that wash through Caroline's house is only upstaged by the way she makes it feel blissfully relaxed and comfortable. As long as the raccoons stay at bay, her labor of love is in the safekeeping of a mindful steward, who also happens to have a keen eye for curating a fabulous home.

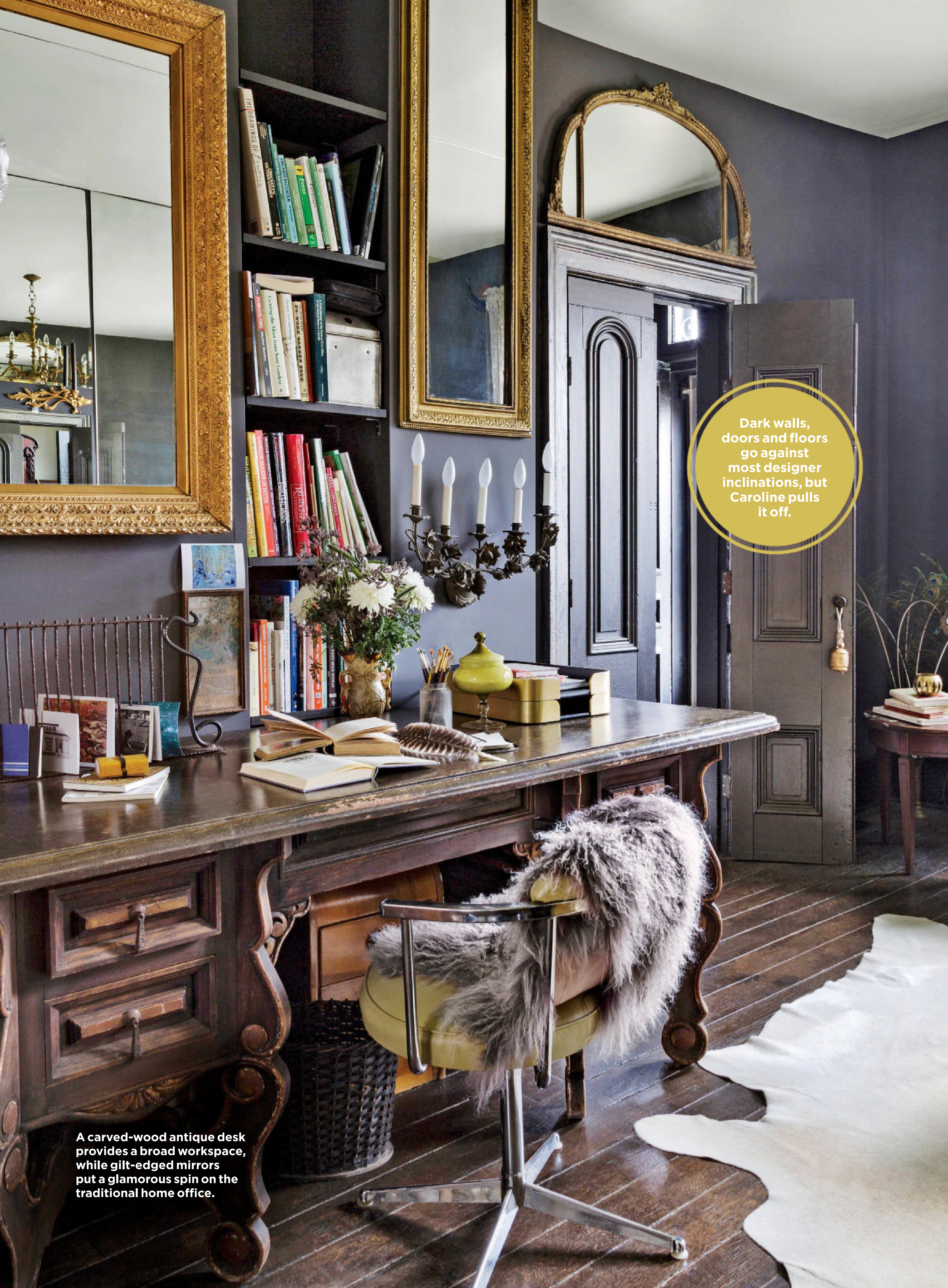


An 18th-century Italian console table that Caroline discovered on a shopping trip to Toronto seems as if it has always graced the bathroom.



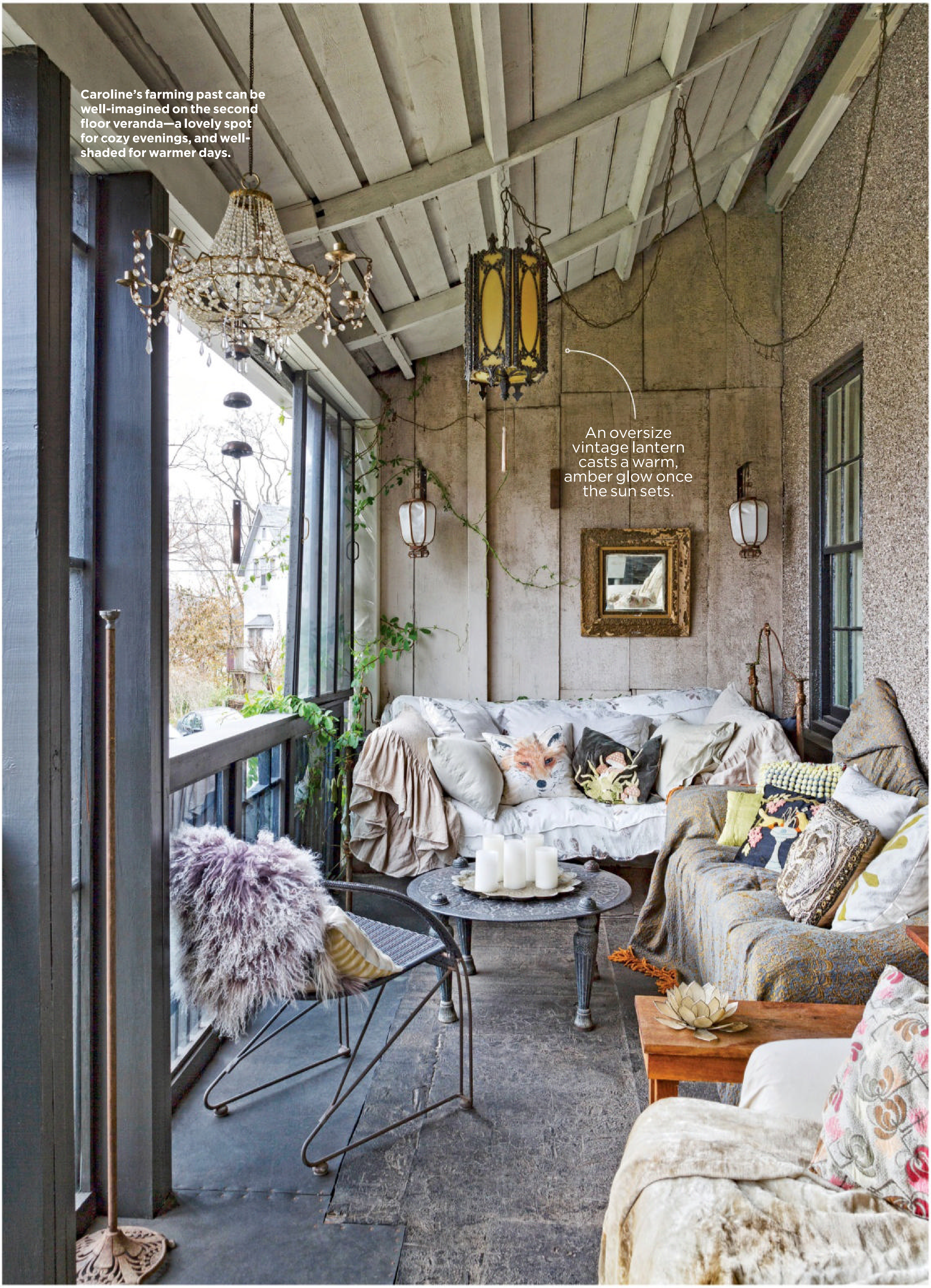
Displaying mirrors in different shapes and sizes creates the dazzling illusion of a grand space.

The sweet simplicity of old schoolhouse lighting plays off the more fanciful elements Caroline chose for the master bathroom made for lingering.



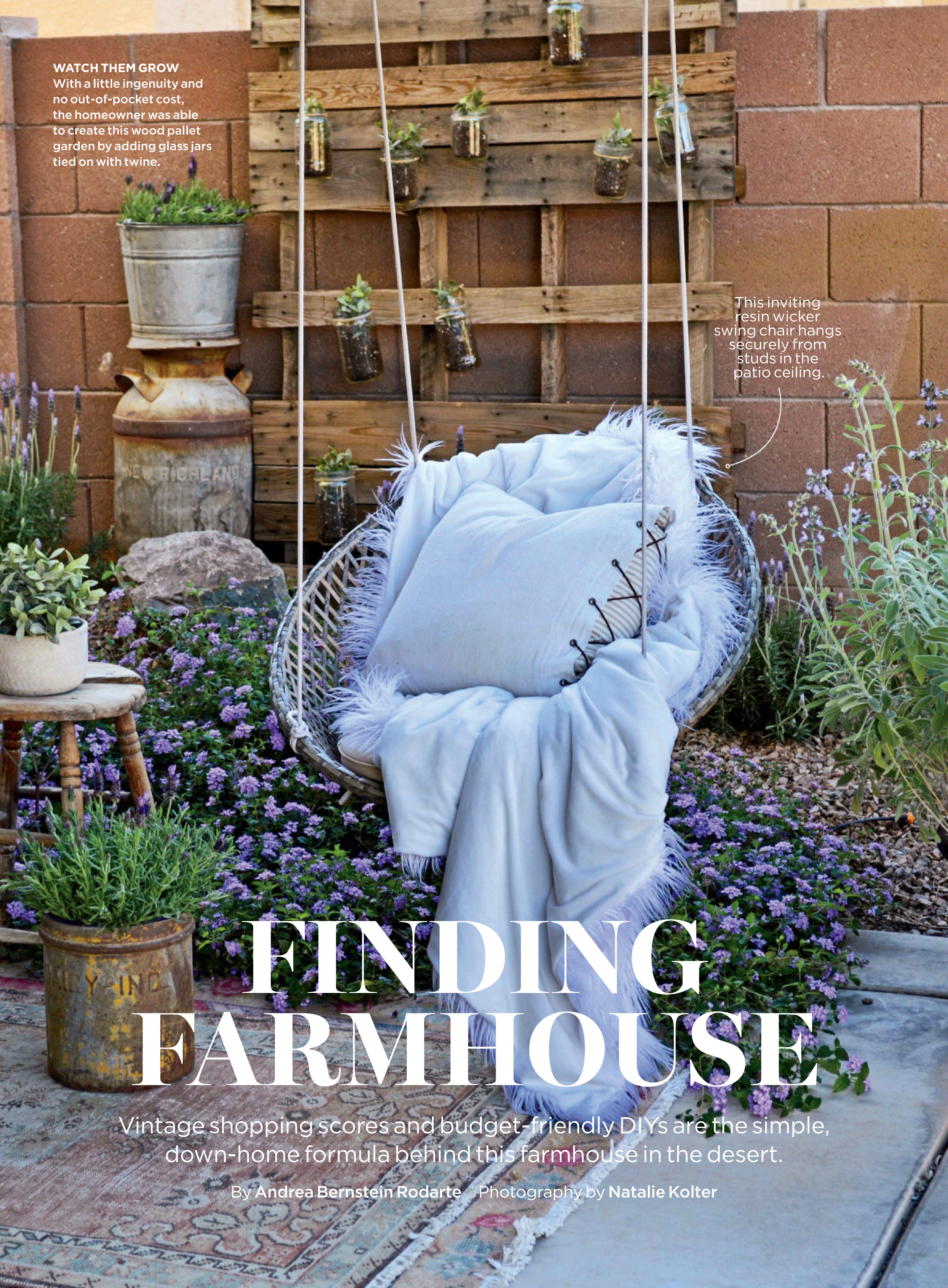
Dark walls, doors and floors go against most designer inclinations, but Caroline pulls it off.

A carved-wood antique desk provides a broad workspace, while gilt-edged mirrors put a glamorous spin on the traditional home office.



Caroline's farming past can be well-imagined on the second floor veranda—a lovely spot for cozy evenings, and well-shaded for warmer days.

An oversize vintage lantern casts a warm, amber glow once the sun sets.



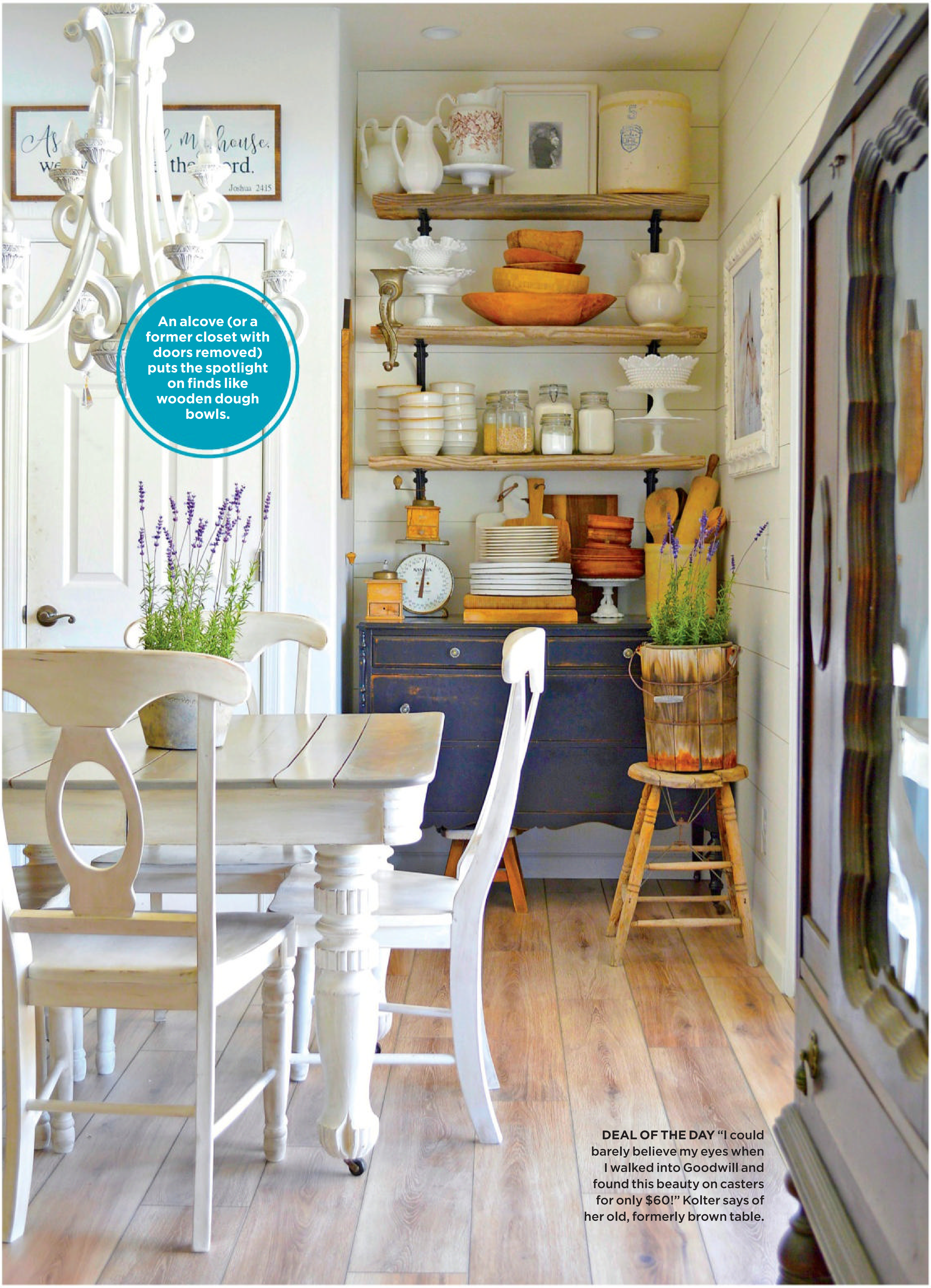
WATCH THEM GROW With a little ingenuity and no out-of-pocket cost, the homeowner was able to create this wood pallet garden by adding glass jars tied on with twine.

This inviting resin wicker swing chair hangs securely from studs in the patio ceiling.

FINDING FARMHOUSE

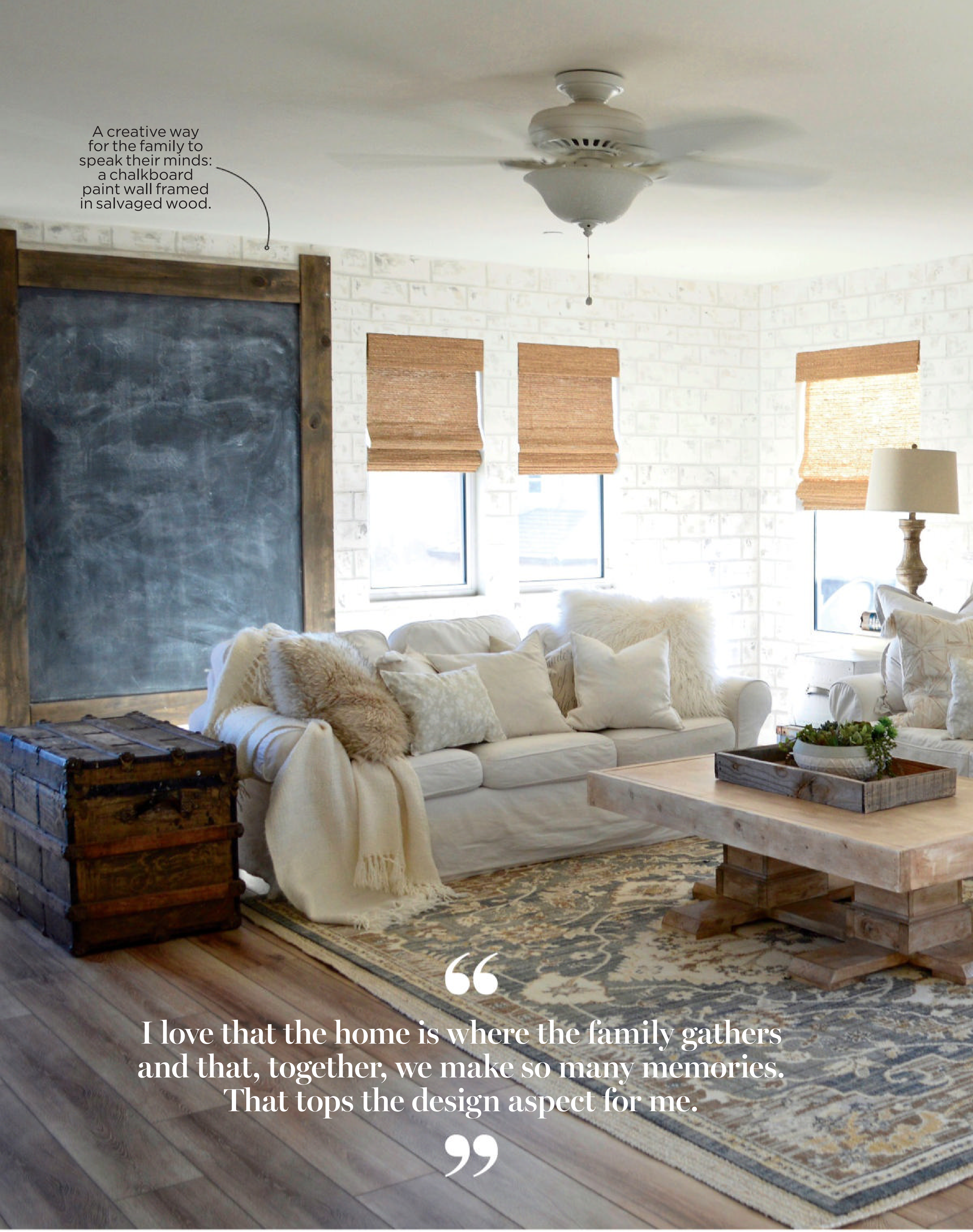
Vintage shopping scores and budget-friendly DIYs are the simple, down-home formula behind this farmhouse in the desert.

By **Andrea Bernstein Rodarte** Photography by **Natalie Kolter**



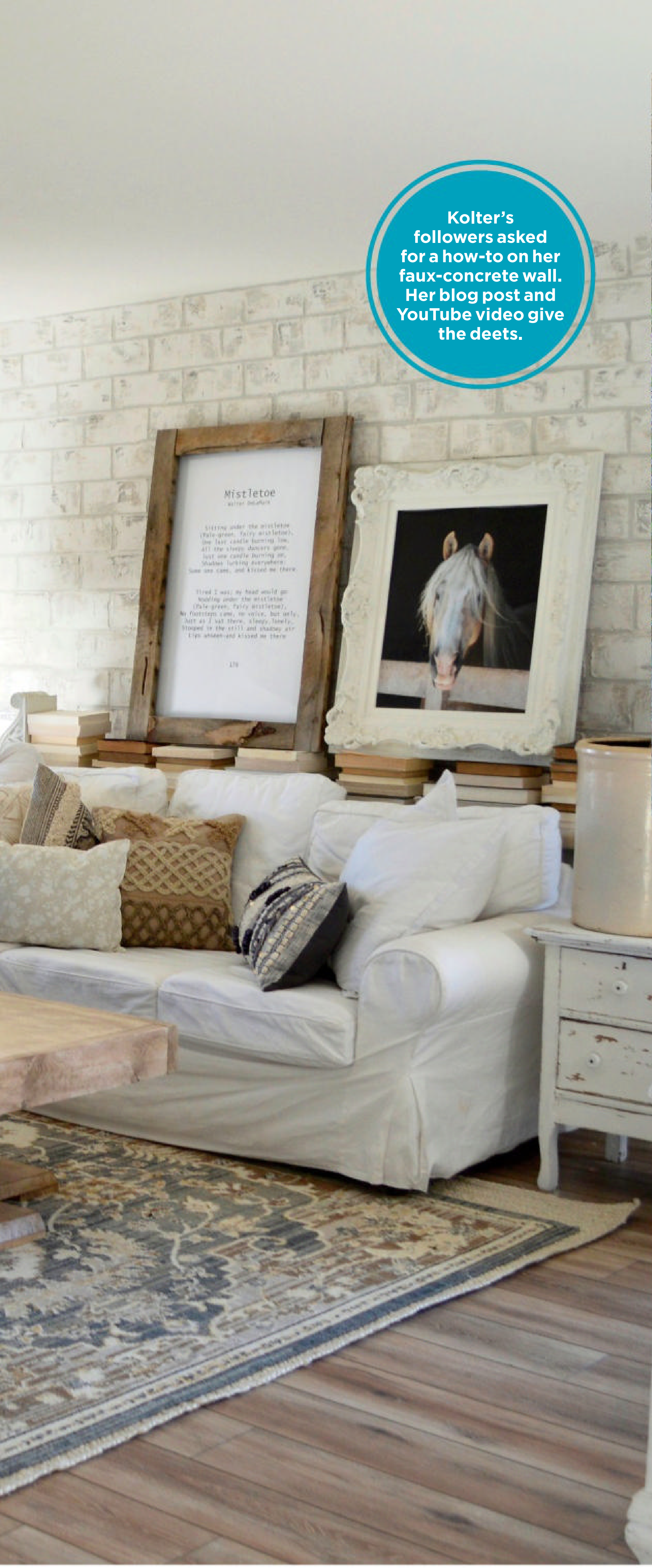
An alcove (or a former closet with doors removed) puts the spotlight on finds like wooden dough bowls.

DEAL OF THE DAY “I could barely believe my eyes when I walked into Goodwill and found this beauty on casters for only $60!” Kolter says of her old, formerly brown table.



A creative way for the family to speak their minds: a chalkboard paint wall framed in salvaged wood.

> I love that the home is where the family gathers and that, together, we make so many memories. That tops the design aspect for me.

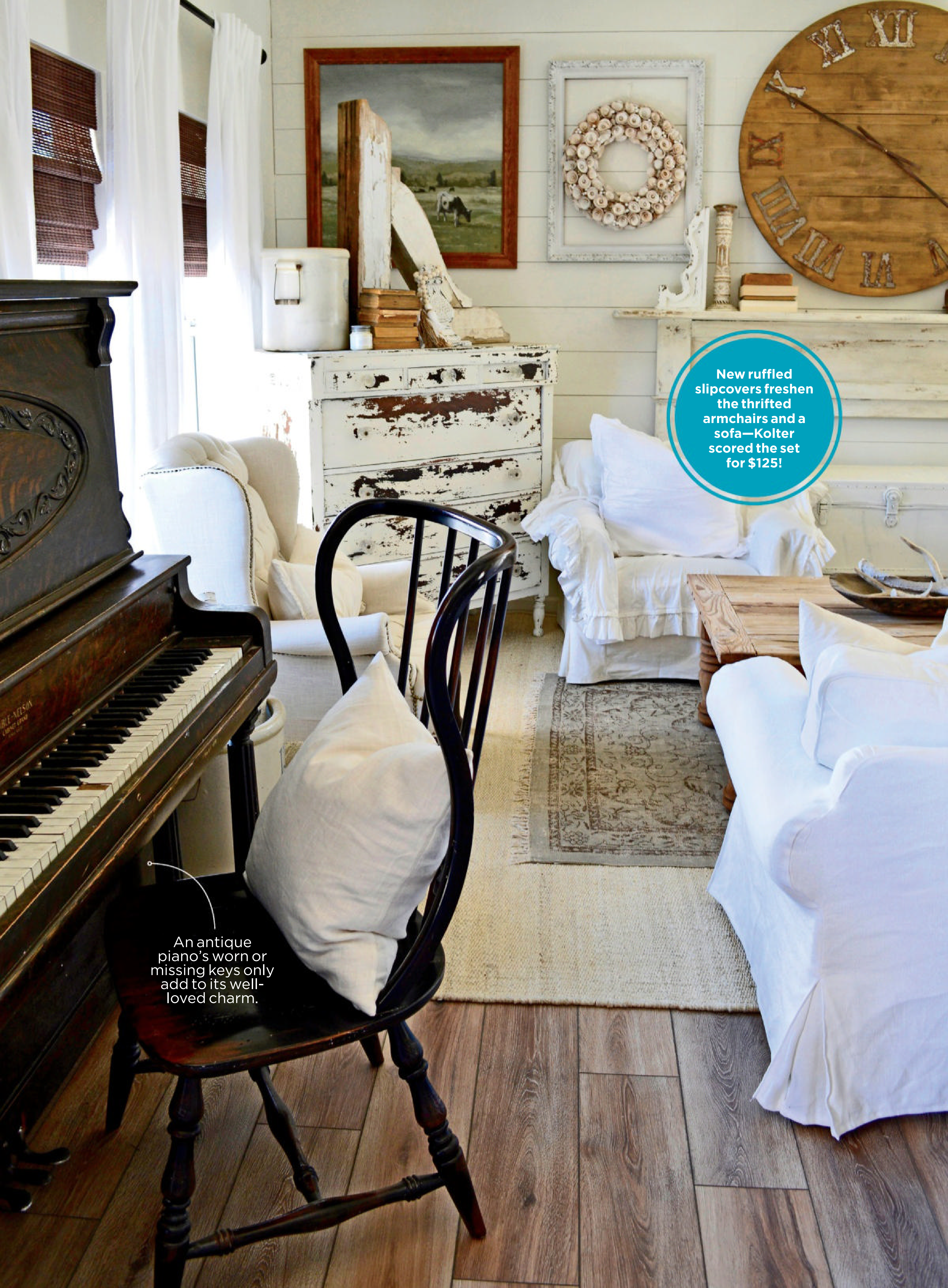


Kolter's followers asked for a how-to on her faux-concrete wall. Her blog post and YouTube video give the deets.

While Tucson, Arizona, may not be the first area one thinks of when they think "rustic farmhouse," homeowner Natalie Kolter saw the potential to put her own stamp on the home she and her husband purchased 10 years ago. "My first choice would be an older house with a lot of natural character, but there's not a lot of properties similar to that style here. So we bought a newer home and have chosen to add our own character little by little," says Kolter. The couple share the home with their three children and Chester, their photogenic goldendoodle.

"I love that the home is where family gathers and that, together, we make so many memories. That tops the design aspect for me," Kolter shares. "Family and their comfort always come before a good design."

▲ **ON THE SIDE** An old $20 dresser was spruced up with milk paint to make a practical end table in the living room.



New ruffled slipcovers freshen the thrifted armchairs and a sofa—Kolter scored the set for $125!

An antique piano's worn or missing keys only add to its well-loved charm.

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Kolter didn't have to wonder how she would achieve the overall design of her dreams and add her personal touch to the tract house built in 2005. Her "rustic farmhouse meets eclectic" approach was inspired by items she collects, such as antiques and shiplap, mixed with modern pieces. "I appreciate the original and unique feel of vintage items," she explains. "I shop at thrift stores a lot. I love to find things that I can't find at the normal, everyday stores out there."

While vintage items can be a challenge to find in Tucson, Kolter is always on the hunt. She shops by a single motto: Go often. With thrift stores setting out new merch daily, one never knows when or where a once-in-a-lifetime find will surface. "Some days I come home with nothing and other days I score an amazing item," she says. "When I run into a vintage item that I must have, I'll make it work if it's in my price range." Sometimes that requires a whole room refresh.

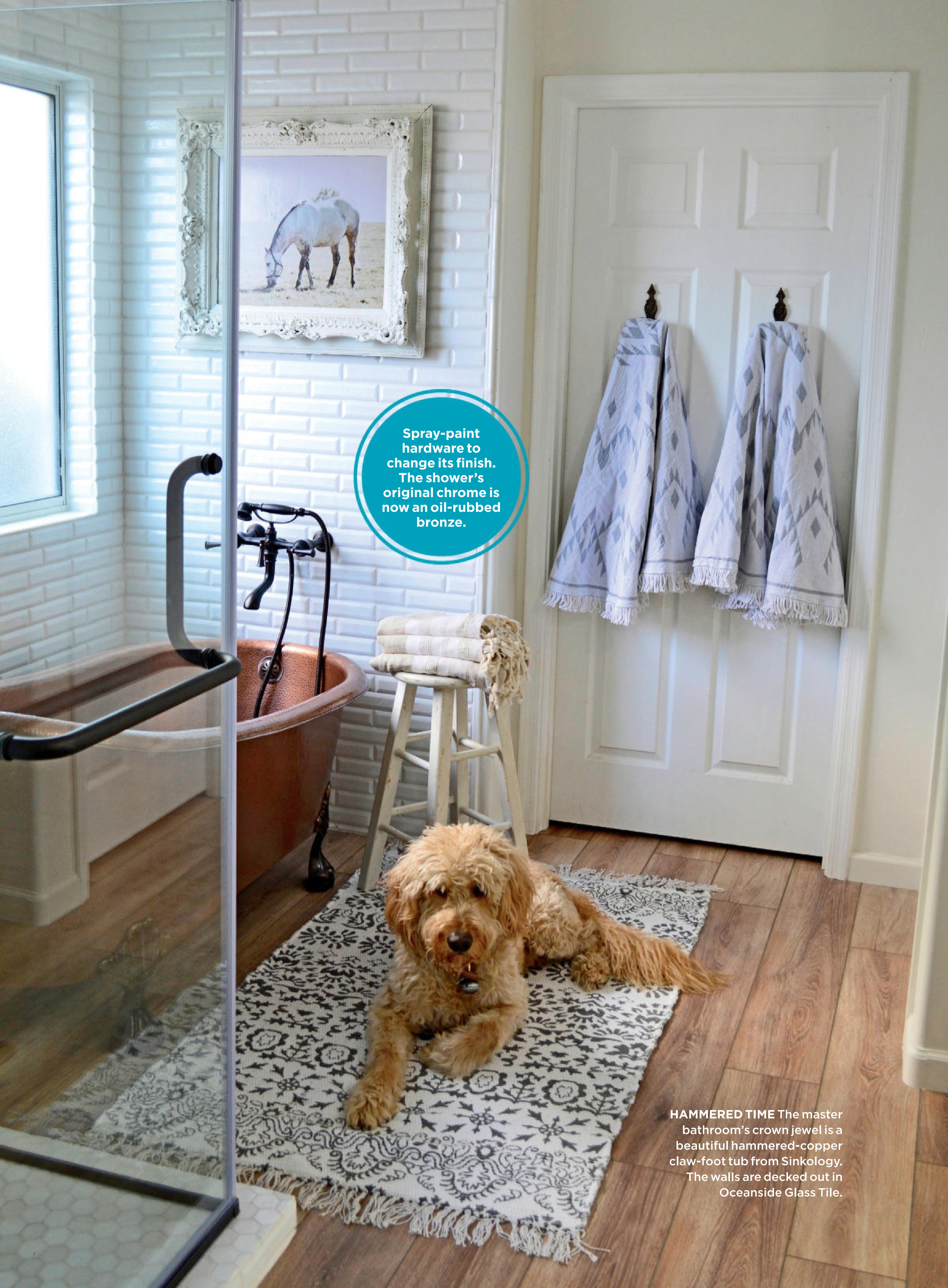
Her most recent project is also one of her favorites. "I adore our master suite," she says. "It was the room that I had the most freedom in choosing what I wanted for the space. I love the faux beams that we added and the character of the wood wall. I've never had beams before. They add so much charm to this builder-grade home. I love that this is the spot that my husband and I can relax in after a long day. It feels like a little retreat."

Kolter's talent for DIY projects and sharing them began when she was a stay-at-home mom on a very tight budget. "Blogging was a perfect way for me to share my passion of DIY, budget-friendly projects and home décor," she says. With a little creativity, she is often able to succeed in creating a similar look to the high-end items she longs for at a fraction of the price. (See how she does it at myvintageporch.com.)

Even after years of beautiful befores and afters, Kolter considers the transformation of her home to be a work in progress. "We always have projects on the horizon," she confesses. When people ask Kolter what she'll do when she doesn't have any more spaces to fix up, she replies, "There is always a project! Everywhere I look I can come up with a project."

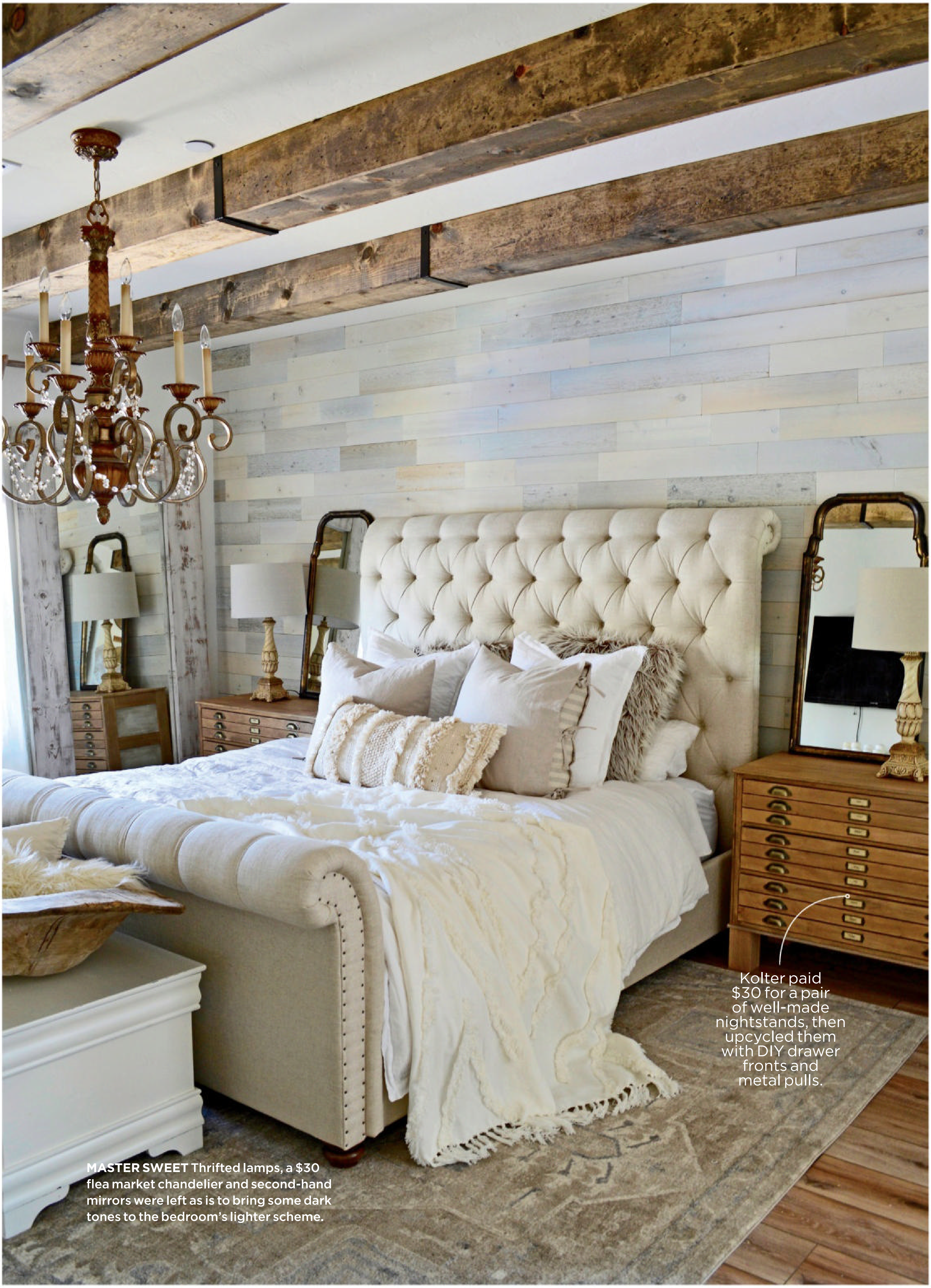
▲**ALFRESCO DINING** The patio receives as much love as any other "room." Gently worn treasures, such as the old wood swing and bench, work well with newer finds in this comfortable outdoor space. (The lavender pots are realistic but faux.)

◀**A SOFT TOUCH** Kolter incorporates copious soft goods into her home including layered vintage rugs, crisp ruffled slipcovers, super soft throws, thrift store lampshades and a jumble of pillows in nearly every room.



Spray-paint hardware to change its finish. The shower's original chrome is now an oil-rubbed bronze.

HAMMERED TIME The master bathroom's crown jewel is a beautiful hammered-copper claw-foot tub from Sinkology. The walls are decked out in Oceanside Glass Tile.



Kolter paid $30 for a pair of well-made nightstands, then upcycled them with DIY drawer fronts and metal pulls.

MASTER SWEET Thrifted lamps, a $30 flea market chandelier and second-hand mirrors were left as is to bring some dark tones to the bedroom's lighter scheme.

SETTING THE AMERICAN TABLE

A table dressed in vintage pieces sends a message of love to your guests.

Personal expression and genuine care for your guests are the most important aspects of setting a vintage table. Nothing has to match if you find meaning and beauty in the pieces you choose.

"Now it's all about mixing vintage, modern and new together on the table," says Michelle Lee, senior vice president of merchandising and content at Everything But The House (EBTH). "That's what is fun about the American table setting: It's easy to put together. The basic elements are not as intricate as European pieces. They're more simplified for the American taste and lifestyle, which makes it easy for collectors to mix and match their vintage table settings."

As the world's premier online estate sale marketplace that starts all auctions at $1, EBTH.com is a fun, fast-paced place to shop for everything from durable daily dishware to vintage heirlooms for tablescapes of every style.

Mason jars are easy starter pieces for the vintage table. Fill with pink lemonade or use as vases.

Cobalt blue bowls and goblets, a green pitcher and a cut-glass cake stand catch the natural light.

Lee finds taking the time to curate vintage pieces on the table is a deliberate way to return to a more communal lifestyle. “To me, setting the American table is creating something that’s engaging,” she says, “which might start with the kids setting the table. The beauty of vintage is the history of the item itself, so it pays to learn about what you’re buying and pass those stories on to them. That’s part of the fun.”

In treasure hunting for tableware, Lee encourages freedom of expression. “Not everything has to match,” she promises. “When you mix a lot of vintage pieces together, you keep it interesting. It should feel like a beautiful juxtaposed Picasso. You’ll never sit in a formal dining room and see pieces from five different eras.” But you might at your house!

For most busy families, however, setting a full-fledged vintage table feels like a massive undertaking. Consider devoting one night a week to transforming your table. Or bring back the time-honored midday Sunday “supper,” place settings and all. “A lot of people feel intimidated, but you can start with a four-person brunch and make it fun. There’s no set equation and no mistakes; it’s about making it your own. The process might feel a little like trial-and-error at first, but even so, there will be so much to talk about at the table among all of these historical things you provided and put in a modern, personal context. If you make that effort, something great is going to come out of it.”

Getting started could be as simple as adding a few vintage elements to your day-to-day table routine. “Start with your tablecloth,” Lee suggests. “Who will you be entertaining? That makes a big difference in your level of formality. It doesn’t have to be supercolorful to be beautiful. It could be in the details of the lace, the damask or embroidery. But stick with a neutral at first if you don’t know which direction you’re going to go.”

Layer in a vintage serving dish made of colorful Depression glass or cat’s-eye-green jadeite. For a more casual look, bring your best Pyrex from the kitchen to the table. Use vintage silverware at each place

> “All great change in America begins at the dinner table.”
>
> RONALD REAGAN

setting, or just for the service dishes. (Some silver buffs like to hunt for ones with a monogram of a former grand hotel or their own family initial.) Finish with your centerpiece: flowers in a hobnail milk glass vase or a silver bowl filled with fruit and greenery, paired with a beautiful pair of vintage candlesticks.

“In the history of American tableware, you have a lot of fun and playful settings for those who don’t want to go formal. Fiestaware was about simplifying the formalization of dinner. Russell Wright was very colorful and whimsical,” even as he joined more earthy modernist manufacturers like Heath Ceramics and other California architectural potteries such as Bauer, says Lee. “A lot of companies that really made a mark still exist and are still being collected.”

One thing enthusiasts love about setting a vintage table is that the pieces are as pretty on the table as they are to keep on display—whether in an antique hutch, on open shelving or in a simple plate rack.

More than the elements that grace the table, however, the gesture is the thought that counts. “Many of us have memories of family dinners at our grandparents’ house when time was taken to really set the table,” Lee says. Rekindling that tradition, even periodically, transports those seated around the table “back to the roots of what a family dinner was. You’re offering an environment to listen and to share again. Every detail you put into it will be noticed by someone, because they probably haven’t experienced that in a very long time. Due to our rushed society and all of our personal technology, I think a lot of us miss that intimacy with each other.”

Lee views any investment in vintage tableware as an investment in the experience you’re inviting others to have with you. Every dish has the potential to elevate the discussion. “These pieces have been through history and have heard so much,” she muses. “In turn they become a complement to our own conversation when we consider, ‘What was going on in the world when this plate was first used?’”

DEPRESSION GLASSWARE

Beginning around the time of the Great Depression, inexpensive but elegant molded glassware came on the scene. Mass-produced by a glass-pressing machine, the dime-store pieces were also given away by businesses as a premium to entice customers. Around two dozen manufacturers are associated with Depression glass from the late 1920s through the early '40s, including Anchor Hocking, Federal, Fenton, Hazel-Atlas, Imperial, Indiana, Macbeth-Evans and Westmoreland. What the tableware lacked in quality, it made up for in an array of patterns and colors. Pink is so popular that many people don't realize there's anything but. Search flea markets, though, and you'll spy clear, green, blue, yellow, amber and red.

BARWARE

Cocktail culture revived itself more than a decade ago, and the party rages on. Mid-century highball and old-fashioned glasses are especially collectible. Many are heavy with gold in geometric, Hollywood Regency or Spanish Revival motifs. The most fetching designs are by Dorothy Tharpe, Georges Briard and Culver, like these from EBTH.com. For a Great Gatsby aesthetic, go for etched or cut-glass flutes, coupes and goblets by Fostoria Glass Company, which began operations in 1887 and continued for nearly 100 years. They don't hold much bubbly, but their delicate refinement is class in a glass.

> “I always love a good tumbler. Vintage ones mix well together.”
>
> MICHELLE LEE

FIESTA A.K.A. FIESTAWARE

A casual, mix-and-match concept defined the success of Fiesta beginning in 1936 (with a hiatus from 1973 to 1985). The bright ceramic-glazed dinnerware manufactured byt he Homer Laughlin China Company of Newell, West Virginia, was a welcome counterpoint to the fussy Victorian-inspired dishes still in vogue. Art Deco styling features concentric circles on pieces offered in a range of solid colors. Cheerful yet durable, they were affordable enough for the family dinner table, and still are. In 2018, the company proudly introduced Mulberry, the brand's 50th color, said to complement every shade in the "Fiestaware" palette.

> “I don't know what it is about Fiestaware, but it makes me smile.”
>
> MARTHA STEWART

MILK GLASS AND JADEITE

While its name conjures images of milky white vases and cake stands made opaque by adding particles during production, milk glass turns on the charm in a variety of colors. The glassmakers of 16th-century Venice fabricated it first, but milk glass has ridden waves of popularity since —from the Victorians who fancied its porcelain look and fashioned it into dishes for every purpose to the ubiquitous hobnail vase, a thrifty accent on postwar American tables. Within the milk glass family, opaque green jadeite caused a stir among mid-century housewives and never lost its magnetism. When Anchor Hocking rolled out its Fire-King glassware to withstand high cooking temperatures, the company’s green jadeite color, largely produced from 1945 to 1974, became a best seller.

more than a market

Full-fledged "fleavents" pair your classic vintage and antique market shopping with music, food and more.

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Gulf of California
BERING SEA
ARCTIC OCEAN

SHOP BY THE BAY

Treasurefest

Treasure Island, California, last weekend of every month but December

Discover the "secret" more than 15,000 people per event already know. Just 3 bucks gets you into this pet-friendly Bay Area event accessible by public transit and surrounded by views of the San Francisco Bay. The former naval base teems with sea breezes and over 400 crafters, artists and vintage collectors, a rotating feast of 40+ food trucks and tents, live music, kids' games, workshops, DIY events and three bars serving craft microbrews, wine and seasonal cocktails. Expect curated greatness.

treasurefest.com

EUROPEAN STYLE

Fremont Sunday Market

Seattle, every Sunday, year-round

"How Seattle does Sundays" is the motto behind this diverse street market, where some 200 vendors offer everything from estate sale treasures, collectibles and vintage fashions to a bazaar of vibrant world imports and original artwork. Live music and an eclectic mix of street food and gourmet food trucks add to the ambiance of this pet-friendly market that has been around since 1990.

fremontmarket.com

FUN FOR FAMILIES

Mile High Flea Market

Denver, Friday, Saturday and Sunday year-round

If your kids haven't begged to go to the flea market lately, the amusement park inside this decades-old shopper's paradise in Colorado's capital will have them pleading. From the fresh produce at the farmers market, to the covered shops, eateries, live lunchtime entertainment and kids' ride zone, there's something for everyone on "80 adventurous acres." Some make it a regular family outing: They're open every weekend and offer annual passes.

milehighfleamarket.com

L.A. ROCKS

The Odd Market

Los Angeles, every 3rd Friday April-September

This 2-acre market is more awesome than odd. Across from the Los Angeles Zoo, enjoy 22 food trucks, boutiques, pop-up shops, a full bar and kids' area with a rock wall, massive inflatables and bungee inside Griffith Park. Bring a blanket, a lawn chair and even your pup to take in live music and guest DJs from 6-11 p.m. Access to the Autry Gallery until 9 p.m. is included in the $5 admission.

theoddmarket.com/autry/

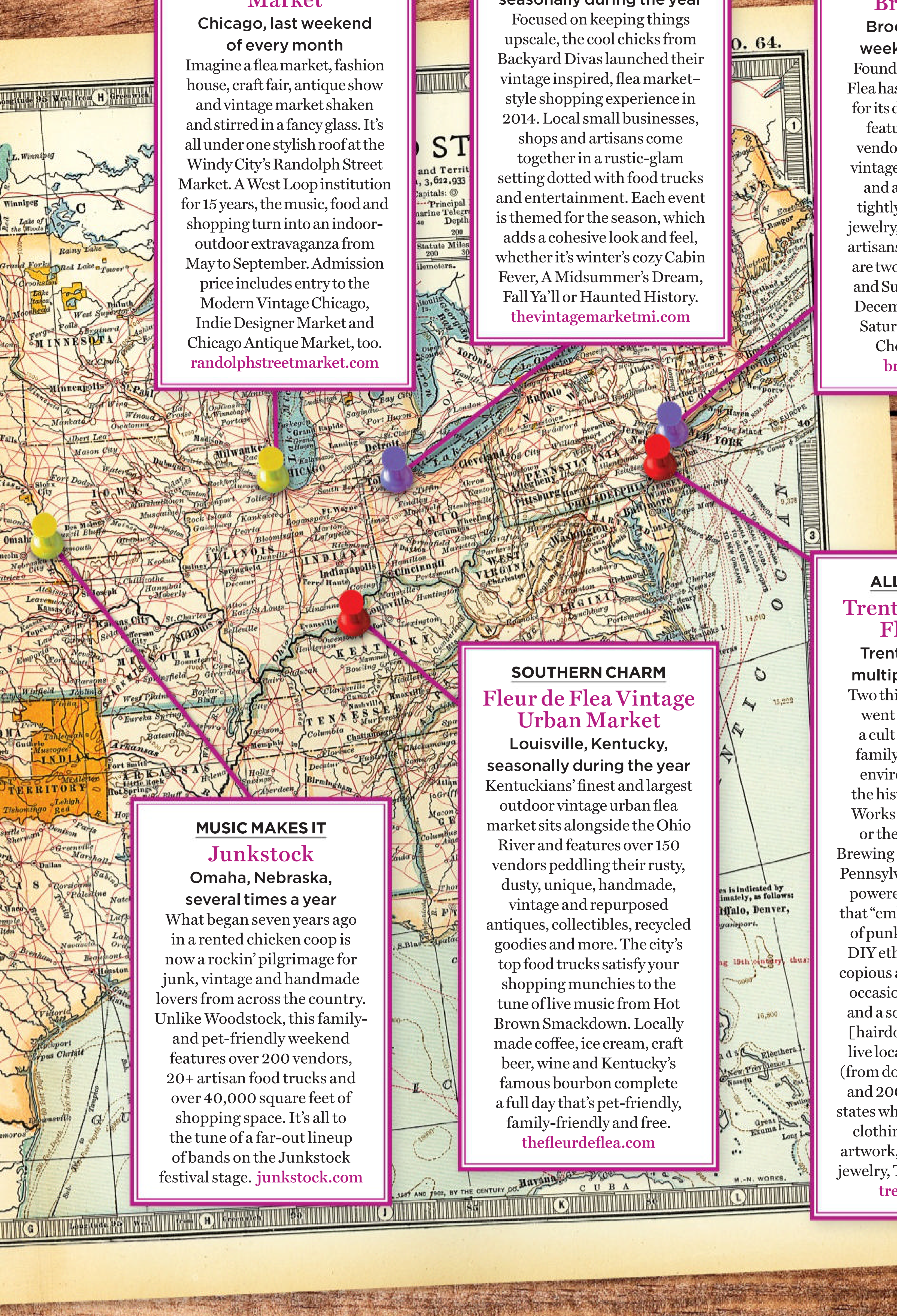
DESERT DIVAS

Junk in the Trunk Vintage Market

Phoenix and Scottsdale Arizona, several times a year

Two best friends morphed a simple yard sale into a swanky, interactive concept made for Instagramming. Their four market locales guarantee an element of surprise every time. Past highlights have included VIP Friday night preview parties with beer and wine, a mom's lounge, mural wall, kids' activity zone, outdoor games, beauty services in an Airstream trailer, live fashion sketches and a photo booth bus.

junkinthetrunkvintagemarket.com



MIDWESTERN BLISS

Randolph Street Market

Chicago, last weekend of every month

Imagine a flea market, fashion house, craft fair, antique show and vintage market shaken and stirred in a fancy glass. It's all under one stylish roof at the Windy City's Randolph Street Market. A West Loop institution for 15 years, the music, food and shopping turn into an indoor-outdoor extravaganza from May to September. Admission price includes entry to the Modern Vintage Chicago, Indie Designer Market and Chicago Antique Market, too. randolphstreetmarket.com

SEASONAL THEMES

The Vintage Market

Monroe, Michigan, seasonally during the year

Focused on keeping things upscale, the cool chicks from Backyard Divas launched their vintage inspired, flea market–style shopping experience in 2014. Local small businesses, shops and artisans come together in a rustic-glam setting dotted with food trucks and entertainment. Each event is themed for the season, which adds a cohesive look and feel, whether it's winter's cozy Cabin Fever, A Midsummer's Dream, Fall Ya'll or Haunted History. thevintagemarketmi.com

BEST IN THE CITY

Brooklyn Flea

Brooklyn, New York, weekends year-round

Founded in 2008, Brooklyn Flea has received rave reviews for its dynamic markets that feature hundreds of top vendors offering furniture, vintage clothing, collectibles and antiques, as well as a tightly curated selection of jewelry, art and crafts by local artisans and designers. There are two locations: Saturdays and Sundays, April through December, in DUMBO and Saturdays and Sundays in Chelsea, year-round. brooklynflea.com

MUSIC MAKES IT

Junkstock

Omaha, Nebraska, several times a year

What began seven years ago in a rented chicken coop is now a rockin' pilgrimage for junk, vintage and handmade lovers from across the country. Unlike Woodstock, this family- and pet-friendly weekend features over 200 vendors, 20+ artisan food trucks and over 40,000 square feet of shopping space. It's all to the tune of a far-out lineup of bands on the Junkstock festival stage. junkstock.com

SOUTHERN CHARM

Fleur de Flea Vintage Urban Market

Louisville, Kentucky, seasonally during the year

Kentuckians' finest and largest outdoor vintage urban flea market sits alongside the Ohio River and features over 150 vendors peddling their rusty, dusty, unique, handmade, vintage and repurposed antiques, collectibles, recycled goodies and more. The city's top food trucks satisfy your shopping munchies to the tune of live music from Hot Brown Smackdown. Locally made coffee, ice cream, craft beer, wine and Kentucky's famous bourbon complete a full day that's pet-friendly, family-friendly and free. thefleurdeflea.com

ALL PUNKED OUT

Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market

Trenton, New Jersey, multiple times per year

Two things you didn't know went together add up to a cult sensation in a safe, family-friendly shopping environment. Hosted at the historic Roebling Wire Works building in Trenton or the Neshaminy Creek Brewing Company in Croydon, Pennsylvania, the markets are powered by a devoted team that "embraces a life-long love of punk rock and hardcore, DIY ethics, the arts, tattoos, copious amounts of coffee, the occasional shot of Jameson and a solid, well-styled quiff [hairdo]." Get punked with live local music, food trucks (from doughnuts to tater tots) and 200 vendors from eight states who specialize in vintage clothing and toys, original artwork, antiques, handmade jewelry, T-shirts and vinyl LPs. trentonprfm.com

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